Soldiers—1920 415
Decorations — Awards for Valor.

Number Of Soldiers Of American Expeditionary Force Who Were Awarded Distinguished Service Cross And Medal Of Honor

New York Leads While Maryland Stands 22nd On The List

1-9-20
The Daily Herald

Less than one percent of the American soldiers who saw service with the A. E. F. won the Congerssional Medal of Honor and the Distinguished Service Cross, the military decorations bestowed by the American government for extraordinary heroism in action.

The official figures are: Medal of Honor, 78; Distinguished Service Cross, 5,241.

There were 941 awards of the Distinguished Service Medal which is the decoration conferred by the government for conspicuous service in a position of great trust and responsibility.

The American decorations are the greatest in the world. Winning them calls for a grater act of honor, valor or service than required by any other nation. The man who wears one has done something!

These interesting facts are disclosed in the publication of Heroes All! which has just been announced by the Fassett Publishing Co. of Washington, D. C. The book is an official record of the individual exploits and achievements of Americans in the great war containing the name and citaion of those who were decorated with the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross and the Distinguished Service Medal.

Included in Heroes All! are tables which show the number of men from each Division and regiment and each city and state who received the decorations. The Fifth Regiment of Marines and New York State head the lists. Nine men from New York won the Medal of Honor and 620 the D. S. C. Illinois with sven is second on the Medal of Honor list while Tennessee, South Carolina, California, Missouri and New Jersey with six apiece are tid for third.

On the D. S. C. list Pennsylvania is second with 420 while Illinois is third with 353. Massachusetts is a close fourth with 321. **Maryland is 22nd with 79.**

The origin and history of the American medals and decorations genrally are described in the Introduction of Heroes All! by Harry R. Stringer the ditor. In part Mr. Stringer writes:::

"Tradition has it that the custom of decorating war hroes originated with the Chinese many centuries before th advent of Christianity, but the practice did not become popular until late in the Middle Ages when the armies of England wore badges after the decline of armor and befor the use of distinctive uniforms. In this country the custom dates back to the Revolutions.

"The Army Mdal of Honor was autorized by Congress in 1862. Originally the law governing the issuane of thse medals provided that they were to be conferred only upon non-commissioned officer s and enlisted men for deds of extraordinary heroism, but popular agitation resulted in the removal of this restriction two yars later and commissioned officers were made eleigible to the decorations although the requirements wre in no wise altered. At the same time the provision designating them as Civil War Medals was strictly eliminated.

"The war with Germany gave us our two other military decorations—the Distinguished Service Cross and the Distinguished Service Medal. Congrss established them in the Army Appropriation act of July,1918.

"The American military decoration rank with the highest in the world. There is none greater, perhaps. than our Medal of Honor. Our Distinguished Srvice Cross takes its place with the celebrated Victoria Cross of Great Britain which has been conceded to be the highest decoration for valor in the world while our distinguished Service Medal is the equal of any foreign medal of its class."

The following table shows the number of men from each state who were decorated with the Medal of Honor or the Distinguished Service Cross:

	D.S.C.	M. of H
Alabama	83	1
Arizona	12	2
Arkansas	28	0
California	135	6
Colorado	38	4
Connecticut	98	0
Delaware	5	0
Washington, D. C.	68	0
Florida	20	0
Georgia	64	0
Idaho	22	2
Illinois	405	7
Indiana	101	0
Iowa	99	1
Kansas	113	2
Kentucky	77	2
Louisiana	25	0
Maine	49	0
Maryland	79	0
Massachusetts	325	5
Michigan	193	1
Minnesota	89	2
Mississippi	26	0
Missouri	158	5
Montana	28	0
Nebraska	41	0
Nevada	4	0
New Hampshire	20	0
New Jersey	168	5
New Mexico	12	0
New York	613	9
North Carolina	173	1
North Dakota	24	0
Ohio	185	0
Oklahoma	80	3
Oregon	36	0
Pennsylvania	411	0
Rhode Island	27	0
South Carolina	99	6
South Dakota	11	0
Tennessee	145	6
Texas	140	1
Utah	16	0
Vermont	18	0
Virginia	117	2
Washington	57	1
West Virginia	45	0
Wisconsin	134	1
Wyoming	4	0
TOTALS..	4,920	75

NOTE—Totals do not include the Foreign awards.

The following table shows the number of men from each city in Maryland who were decorated with the Medal of Honor or the Distinguished Service Cross:

CITY	D.S.C
Annapolis	2
Baltimore	39
Bel Air	1
Bloomington	1
Cambridge	4
Cumbrland	1
Dawson	1
Easton	3
Elkton	1
Fairfield	1
Fderalsburg	1
Forrest Glen	1
Frederick	1
Frostburg	1
Germantown	1
Govans	1
Hagerstown	4
Halethrope	1
Howardsville	1
Kensington	1
Laurel	1
Mt. Washington	1
Perryman	1
Port Deposit	2
Princess Anne	1
Principio Furnance	1
Salisbury	2
Swanton	1
Thurmons	1
Wingate	1
Total	79

415

THE NEGRO'S PART IN THE WAR

Dr. Durkee Declares Negro Should Be Given Due Share Of Glory Won In Great World War

The Daily Herald
1-7-1920

Dear Mr. Editor:

Here at the Capitol, where all the tides of thought meet, and the strongest possible expressions are used to emphasize the various beliefs, one finds that he must have official proof for all he says, if he is to retain a reputation for veracity. Yet even the official proof is subject to such divergent interpretation, one finds that often that old statement flashes to mind, "even the devil can clothe himself in light."

Just now,one of the bitterest controversies is raging over the Negro's part in the great war, and the honors he received. There is so much glory for all, that I wonder, or would wonder, at the attempt to everywhere discredit the Negro in the war, did I not know the animus back of it all.

Everywhere here, and especially in certain circles of white people who could not help knowing the truth if they would, one hears such statements as these, "Negro troops were a complete failure," "The Buffaloes ran away," "Negro officers could not command the respect of their own men and hence were all being dismissed from the army," "If the war had continued three months longer (that ever present 'if') General Pershing would have ordered every colored officer dismissed," etc., etc., ad finitum.

Especially maddening to colored people is the persistent cry that no colored regiments were decorated in by France for bravery. My statement in The Congregationalist of recent date has been denied by ary officers and men, and characterized as absolutely false. Even the great Army and Navy Journal hides the fact, by saying, in a recent isue, that the only organizations officilly authorized by the War Department of the United States to wear the Croix de Guerre are three ambulance organizations and one aero organization, and these, of course, are white. It is all such statements, isinuations nd falsehoods as I have above mentioned which are adding fuel to the fires now burning.

Mr. Editor, I have here an official document from the Special Assistant to the Secretary of War which declares that the 369th, 370th, 371st, and 372nd regiments, all of them colored regiments, were decorated by France with the Croix de Guerre. In Dr. Emmet J. Scott's book, "The American Negro in the World War," you will find official citations and th words of great praise. In my forme letter I should not have said tha these were the only regiments of th A. E. F. to receive such decoration I should have said that they were th only colored regiments.

Mr. Editor, the times are so critcal that I again want to plead f sane, sound, clear, just, and Christian thinking and acting. "Stea down," is my constant cry. "Endure yet longer, for the day of justice is near." Of course, if America is determined for a bonfire, she cannont do better than to pursue her present methods.

Commisioner Brownlow and Major Pullman held several conferences with representative colored citizens of Washington, and at the end of these conferences Commissioner Brownlow made it known that these reperesentative colored people had helped to stabilize conditions and to restore order, and thanked them for it. Only as colored people shall have eneven-handed justice and be treated with the confidence they deserve, shall we have peace.

The agencies for detruction are fearful, but "they that be for us are more than they that be against us." Thank God for the new and powerful agencies of redemption which are rapidly gathering even in the Sou hland.

J. STANLEY DURKEE,
President, Howard University
Washington, D. C.

MARYLAND HEROES IN THE WAR

3-19-20

Twice a week Herald

372nd Infantry (Colored)

A unit of the Maryland National Guard—the 1st Separate Company—was composed of colored men. This company became Company "", 372nd Infantry, organized at Camp Stuart, Va., January, 1918. The first commander of the regiment was Colonel Glendie B. Young, succeeded July 12 1918 by Colonel Herschel Tupes. The company was commanded by Captain James E. Dunjill to September, 1918 In the active fighting following, Captain Charles P. Rowe led the company until he was mortally wounded September 28th, when Lieut. Frederick Decker assumed command.

The regiment reached France in April, 1918. It was a part of the 933rd Division, but the 93rd did not function as a division, and the 372nd Infantry served with the French. In June, the regiment occupied the Sub-Sector Argonne West, and about July 1st was moved to the Sub-Sector Vacquois (Meuse). At this time the regiment passed to the cntrol of the 157th French Division, the "Red Hand" Division, commanded by General Goybet, and its subsequent operations were as part of that division. From July 22nd to September 9th, the regiment occupied Sub-Sector 304, Verdun.

The 157th Division was a part of the 9th Corps of the Fourth French Army in the attack on the Champagne front, begun September 26th. The mission of the 157th Division was to exploit the success gained in the initial attack. September 28th the 372nd, from a point near Ripont, advanced to the attack, and drove the enemy from the tsrongly entrenched position on the Crete-des Observatorires, north of Fontaine en-Dormoise. Thereafter, the 372nd progressed northward in the attack toward Monthois. The regiment was withdrawn October 6th-7th.

The Divisin was sent to the Lorraine front, where the 372nd was assigned to Sub-Sector B for a time The regiment retnrned to the United States in February, 1919. These colored troops made a splendid record and received the highest commendations from the French General commanding them

92nd DIVISION.

(Colored)

368th Infantry.

351st Artillery.

The 92nd Division was organized in November, 1917, with headquarters at Camp Funston. Two regiments, the 368th Infantry ar [illegible] 351st Artillery, were orga[illegible] Camp Meade, and were com[illegible]sed partly of Maryland men. The commander of the Division until after the armistice, was Major General Charles C. Ballou. The first commander of the 368th was Col. Wm. R. Jackson. In the operations in September-October, 1918, Col. Fred. R. Brown was in command. The 351' Artillery was commanded first by Col. Wm. E. Cole, and later in France by Col. Wade H. Carpenter.

The Division reached France in June, 1918, ad was snt to the training area around Bourhonneles-Bains, in Haute Marne... From August 25 to September 20th, the Division occupied a sector at St. Die, on the Alsace border. In preparation for the Meuse-Argonne offensive, the Division moved up in reserve.

September 25th, the 368th was sent to the Fourth French Army, entering the line opposite Binarville. During the five days in which the 368th held this position, a total advance of five kilometers was made and the village of Binarville taken. The regiment was withdrawn September 29th, and the Division transferred to the Marbache sector, on the Moselle River. November 10th-11th it participated in the general advance on this front towards Metz.

The artillery brigade went into training in France at Montmorillion in the Department of Vienne. Abou tity.

The Savannah Journal

FAVORABLE TESTIMONY ON COLORED AMERICAN SOLDIERS IN FRANCE

Paris, April 25, 1920

5-13-20

Doctor Wright,
President, Ga. State College,
Savannah, Ga.

Dear Doctor Wright:

I have been extremely pleased to hear from you, that you got home safely.

I have often mentioned your name to many French people interested in all that concerns the part taken in the great war by all colored soldiers.

I have been very lucky lately and have got in touch with Col. Hau of the French Army who attached with General Goybet, to the 157th Division (French Unit) containing the U. S. Army Regiments: 371st Colored Infantry under Col. Vups, white cammanding officer and also 372nd under Colonel Miles, also white officer. These two regiments came to the 157th Division at Raricourt in the Voges in July 1918 and were sent with the French 133 Infantry, and took the front between Ravin de Beauyons and the "Main de Massiges" where we went last year together.

9/15

I have heart to inform you of the high esteem and admiration that Colonel Hau has of your colored units and especially of their remarkable heroisf in the battle of July 25, 1918 and 8th of October where colored officers of these two regiments acted in so distinguished conduct on the field.

I have obtained from this officer leave to print and copy photographs and documents which I am sure will be of great value to you—especially over 200 yards of films concerning the 371st under fire. Cost of printing would be about $50. so let me know if I must have this work done. (About 200 photos)

As you know, Mr. Millerand is now our Primier, I have therefore left the Cooks and Co., and now am acting as Laison Officer in the devasted region of North of France. I will never forget the few days I spent with you and if I go to the states I shall certainly call on you. Every time I can obtain information valuable to you, will be extremely pleased to forward it to you. Let me know what I must do for the photographs and films, the soonest possible for I am leaving in July for South Russia on special mission for the French Government.

I should be pleased to have the photographs you took of our trip to Strassburg.

Believe me, Dear Dr. Wrigrt,
1st Lt. Srnest de Trobriand
10 rue Faraday, Paris

To Dr. R. R. Wright as a token of high esteem and also in remembrance of the gallant deeds of U. S. Colored Soldiers.

Ernest de Trobriand, grand son of Major Regis de Trobriand of the U. S. Army

(Lt. de Trobriard, Prof. Wright's guide over the battle fields of France.)

Soldiers—1920 414 414

Decorations—Awards for Valor.

DRAFT DODGER? NOT THIS BOY

ROCHESTER N Y HERALD
AUGUST 30, 1920

Rochester Colored Man Has Laugh on Deputy Sheriff.

SELLS HIS GARB TO FIGHT

Refuses To Take White Striker's Job —Aspires to Teach Brethren in South.

Picked up by an Ontario County Deputy Sheriff in 1917 as a draft evader suspect, Solomon Harper, colored, to-day is one of the [redacted] Rochester's adopted sons. In justice to Solomon, it ought to be said right here that he was not and never attempted to be a slacker in any sense of the word and his record after joining the army and since his discharge will stand as an example for many a young man and according to his many friends in this state, he is a man that will be heard more of later.

Solomon is an honest to goodness adopted son of Father Rochester. He became such in the fall of 1917. The way it happened was this. Far out on the western coast, Solomon was working as a laborer when the war broke out. Like others of his race, he knew what the value of democracy to the world really meant and he determined to get in the thick of the fight as soon as he could. He had registered in a draft district in California but he worked his way eastward, figuring that the eastern boys would be the first to go. One Sunday afternoon he was strolling down a highway in the vicinity of Manchester with his working clothes on. He was working at the time on the D., L. & W. A Deputy Sheriff, seeing him, suspected that Solomon was a draft suspect and sent him to United States Marshal John D. Lynn in the Federal Building here.

Solomon at the time told a straightforward story of how his registration card had been lost and so impressed his hearers that they determined to see what could be done for him. He was taken before Eugene Raines, sitting as chairman of Draft Board 6, and it was figured that Solomon could quickly be sent into service as a representative of that district providing Solomon cared to become a Rochester boy. Solomon smiled a golden smile and welcomed the adoption. He went merrily on his way to Syracuse, first telling Marshal Lynn where he could be reached when the time came.

The time came sooner than had been expected and it found Solomon in Syracuse without funds enough to get back here. Did that prevent him from going with the first contingent? It did not. The six feet, four inches of American Manhood sold every bit of his clothing not absolutely needed to get him by the censor and thus managed to raise enough to pay his fare here. It was a bitter cold day in the fall when he reported to Marshal Lynn. The latter dug up some warm clothing and made him comfortable and Solomon marched off with the first draftees to go to Camp Dix.

"When you're made a first sergeant, write to me" were the parting words from Marshal Lynn as the big colored boy stepped on the train. Weeks went by and no word was received by the Marshal. At length official business called the Marshal to Camp Dix and he decided to look up his ward. He inquired for a soldier by the name of Harper and discovered that Private Harper had been promoted to 1st sergeant only two days before and the promised letter was on its way to Rochester when the Marshal was visiting the camp.

"He'll make a good soldier," commented Marshal Lynn to Solomon's Captain.

"Will make a good soldier? He's a good soldier now," was the Captain's reply.

Those Large Feet.

Sergeant Harper was known at Camp Dix as the sergeant-maker, for he is credited with turning out more non-commissioned officers than any other individual at Camp Dix. He was given the honor of firing the first artillery piece at the range. When his day's duty was done, Solomon burned the midnight oil, seeking to better his education. American illiteracy cost Uncle Sam many months. But for the inability of a large number of draftees to read and write, America might have been at the front many months before, according to Sergeant Harper.

But Sergeant Harper was "out of luck" in a way due to his prominent feet, of which he says that he is rather proud. His feet were so large that there were no overshoes in the supply house to fit his shoes, and thus in the wet spell that hit Camp Dix he suffered from wet feet nearly every day, a condition that caused his transfer to a hospital with a high fever.

While in the hospital Solomon heard that his regiment was about to sail. He was favored one morning by a call of the doctor. Solomon begged the physician to allow him to leave the hospital in time to rejoin his regiment and leave for France, promising to return to bed the first day out at sea. In order to appear better, he had his mates feed him large quantities of vaseline to stop his bad cough. He could barely carry his baggage on the boat when he walked the gang plank and that night he coughed so hard that he was sent to the ship hospital.

Regiment Leaving.

Upon arriving in France he was sent to Base Hospital 5 where he progressed nicely. Then he heard that his regiment was about to start for the front. He made up his mind that he would get out of the hospital and sought an interview with the major general, which was granted. The physician had told Solomon that he could leave the hospital soon and this fact was told to the major general by the adopted son of Rochester.

"How soon?" asked the major general.

"I don't care if I go to-day," replied Sergeant Harper and to-day he went.

He served with distinction in France as a first sergeant in an American battery and then was promoted to sergeant major. One night while acting as an observer he was badly gassed, necessitating his being sent to a hospital again and eventually returned to the United States. While in his observation post, Sergeant Harper noticed that German snipers were located in a church steeple in a small town in France. This information was sent back to the rear lines. Did the American gunners train the projectiles on this church steeple? They did not. Not in all the time that he served in France did Sergeant Harper ever see an American gun trained on an inhabited town or a church, and although it probably cost a great number of lives, he firmly believes that the Americans were rewarded in the end for not doing so.

Upon returning to this country, Solomon was sent to school by Uncle Sam. He did remarkably well at school and he was given a scholarship in the New York Electrical School. This course called for a term of eight months. Solomon completed it in five and a half and was highly recommended upon graduating. He was then given a scholarship in a correspondence course in the University of California and this was followed by another in the International Correspondence Schools, both being completed with high standings.

Finds Labor Trouble.

With this education, he again visited Marshal Lynn in an effort to obtain work in a local electrical shop. The work was found for him but upon learning that there was labor trouble here, Solomon decided to stay away. He is anxious to earn the respect of his white brothers and he reasoned that to step into a position of a white man on strike was not exactly the right way to obtain this respect, so he packed his little kit and went back to Syracuse where he has been working ever since.

Sergeant Harper does not intend to remain always in Syracuse, however. He stepped into the office of Marshal Lynn Saturday night and informed him that he has hopes of settling in Rochester as soon as he completes an executive electrical course in Syracuse University, a scholarship for that course having been furnished him by Uncle Sam. He enters that institution in the fall.

Wants to Be in Dixie.

Solomon Harper has one ambition. He hopes some day to return to his southland, the land of his birth and there lend what assistance he is able to the illiterates there, for he says there are a great number, fully as bright as he himself and with half a chance might be able to be of more assistance to Uncle Sam in case they are needed in any future emergency. But Rochester will be his home town forever more. The kindness shown by Marshal Lynn and members of the Rochester draft boards in the days that he was suspected of being a slacker will never be lost to his memory. He is grateful and hopes to have an opportunity shortly to show his appreciation.

SOLOMON HARPER

VICTORY MEDALS FOR VETERANS OF OLD 15TH

The 369th Infantry, the Old 15th N. Y., is officially credited by the adjutant general's office, War Department, with a battle record that entitles its members to wear a Victory Medal with four bars. The following is an extract from a letter received by Major George F. Hinton from Adjutant General P. C. Harris:

Dear Sir:

With reference to your letter of Sept. 14 which you request information concerning the battle participation of the 369th Infantry you are advised that the records of this office show that the 369th Infantry is given credit for having participated in the following battles:

(1) Champagne sector, France, April 8-July 4, 1918, July 21-Aug. 19, 1918; Aug. 26-Sept. 2, 1918.

(2) Champagne-Marne defensive, France, July 15-July 18, 1918.

(3) Aisne-Marne offensive, France, July 18-July 20, 1918.

(4) Meuse-Argonne offensive (Champagne) France, Sept. 26-Sept. 30, 1918.

(5) Thur sector, Vosges, France, October 16-November 11, 1918.

In making public this information, W. W. Chisum, chairman of the Veteran Corps, 15th Regiment, incorporated, states that all members of the regiment entitled to the Victory Medal, should make application through the Veteran Corps office, 2245 Seventh avenue, at once. The Corps has made preparation for handling the applications, as the medals will only be distributed through the nearest U. S. Army Post, camp or recruiting station. The necessary blanks with the regiment's war record inscribed are in Chairman Chisum's hands for the use of those entitled to the Victory Medal.

At Richmond, Va., William L. Anderson, of the 368th Infantry, has been awarded a Distnguished Service Cross for bravery in action October 1-16 1918. He served as company runner in the Argonne offensive and braved shell fire to deliver messages.

---The Crisis, May 1920, p. 50.

Chaplain From South Decorated by French

4-10-20

Birmingham, Ala., April 9.—Rev. John W. Ovletrea, 803 Charles street north, who served as a chaplain for 16 months in France with the rank of first lieutenant, has received from the War Department the French government's decoration awarded him.

As recognition for his general efficiency in discharging his duties, the French government sent to Chaplain Ovletrea a citation certificate of the Order of University Palms, grade of officer d'academie, silver palms. Rev. Ovletrea was chaplain at Miles Memorial college here when he entered the army. He was assigned to active duty overseas at base section No. 2 and was chaplain in charge of the religious welfare of the 25,000 troops at Camp Ancona, near Bordeaux.

1524 Knoxville, Tenn., Tribune
JULY 11, 1920

COLORED TROOPS.

General [redacted] at a banquet in Washington was praising the colored troops.

"But the colored troops," he said "didn't like it in the foreign hospitals. When they got laid up in hospital with wounds, they fretted to get back to the trenches again.

"In an English hospital one day a young colored boy fretted so much that the nurse said to him impatiently:

" 'My goodness, you colored soldiers give us more trouble than all the rest put together.'

" 'Yas'm,' said the colored boy; 'dat's what de Germans say.' "

OVLETREA OF ALABAMA AWARDED FRENCH HONOR

New York Age

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.—The Rev. John W. Ovletrea, late first lieutenant and chaplain of the A. E. F., serving sixteen months in France, has been awarded a French certificate of honor, a Citation Certificate of the Order of University Palms, grade of Officier d'Academie—Silver Palms, the award being made by the French government through the adjutant general's office, War Department, Washington. 4-24-20

Lieut. Ovletrea was chaplain at Miles Memorial College, this city, a C. M. E. school, when he entered the army as chaplain in O. R. C., and he was assigned to Base 2, comprising about 25,000 soldiers, at Camp Ancona, near Bordeaux, France. He is the only colored officer in Alabama to receive this citation, and probably the only one in the South.

the Government. The New York Age

Russell Lewis, twenty-one years old who had been decorated for heroism in action, has been cited by the War Department for "exceptional bravery in action". Lewis lived with his mother in this city, died last summer from tuberculosis contracted in France. He served with the 372nc Infantry. On Novermebr 11, 1918, a fe hours before the armistice was signed, Lewis rushed ahead to aid his comrades, putting to route a squad of Germans.

6-3-1920

Hero Given Medal

The Afro American

New York City, Aug. 12.—Sergeant Oliver Owens, Co. M, 369th Infantry, was awarded the victory medal for bravery shown in relieving Sgts. Johnson and Roberts in the section which was severely attacked by Germans in the Argonne Forest, August, 1918.

9-3-26

Sgt. Owens was decorated with the Croix de Guerre with Palms by General Pitman, Sept. 6, 1918, and also received four citations for bravery from the same general.

HONORS COME AFTER RACE HERO PASSES

6-5-1920

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 3.—Russell Lewis, a young Colored soldier who died here last summer, a victim of tuberculosis, has just been cited by the War Department for exceptional bravery in action.

Chicago Defender

LATE RECORDS OF WAR SHOW MORE OF RACE HEROISM

Adjutant General of Virginia Notified that State is Honored With Two More French Citations Won by Negroes.

CROIX DE GUERRE FOR BRAVERY IN ACTION

(Special to Norfolk Journal and Guide)

Richmond, Va., June 23—The War Department today notified the Adjutant General of Virginia that two more Virginia Negroes received the French Croix de Guerre with bronze stars for bravery in action during the World War.

Norfolk Journal Guide

They are: Hugh W. Givens, private, Company K. 370th infantry, Ninety-third division, who lived in Staunton at the time of his enlistment, and Charlie T. Monroe, sergeant, headquarters company, 370th infantry, Ninety-third division, of Meyersville, Va.

Givens' citation reads as follows: "Liason agent with remarkable bravery and devotion. From the 27th of September to the 12th of October, 1918, he went out constantly, despite the fire of the enemy, to carry orders to the troops, and he always accomplished his missions, in spite of extreme difficulties by day and night."

6-28-24

Monroe's citation follows: "A brave and valorous soldier On the 25th of September 1918, at Mont des Singes during an enemy attack, when all his comrades had been wounded, he remained at his post and did not cease firing with his gun, thus preventig the advance of the enemy."

The above citations show how biased certain historians have been in recording the demeanor of Negro soldiers "under fire" during the late war.

Soldiers—1920
Insurance.

LIEUT. J. WILLIAMS CLIFFORD.

Special Representative, Colored Soldiers and Sailors, Bureau of War Risk Insurance, Resigns.

The Kansas City Sun

[illegible]

The usefulness of his work strangled by the prejudice and discrimination of the Democratic Administration, Lieutenant J. Williams Clifford, former officer of the 367th Infantry, 92nd Division, A. E. F., who for over a year has looked after the interests of Colored Servicemen in the Bureau of War Risk Insurance recently tendered his resignation as their special representative because of continual limitatious of his official duties by prejudiced southern white superiors. Upon interviewing Lieutenant Clifford, he said:

"Little by little certain officials in the Bureau of War Risk Insurance have attempted to give my section trouble simply because of their hatred for the Negroes. Upon one occasion it was claimed that a personal letter was sent out from my office in a franked envelope without a stamp, although the envelope was never produced. Another time I was ordered to stop signing letters written in my section to Colored Soldiers, and friends because they wished them to be signed by a white man. This I refused to do and I was given to understand that if I did not do so, they would get someone who would carry out their orders. It was only after a two weeks fight that I was again permitted to sign my name to letters originating in my section. Later I was forced to send my dictated letters down to another office where a white high school graduate approved and signed them, signing my own signature to my own letters before they were sent out. This was all done because there was fear that I would persist in helping Colored ex-Serviceen in matters pertaining to their Insurance, Death Claims and Allotment claims in a way that might 'embarras the Bureau of War Risk Insurance."

Realiizng that there was need for a Colored man in the Bureau of War Risk Insurance to look after the Insurance, Compensation, and Allotment Claims of Colored Soldiers, I succeeded in having myself appointed to the position during the present administration. My official designation has been Special Representative of the Colored Soldiers and Sailors in the Bureau of War Risk Insurance. By articles in the Colored newspapers and magazines and through the enrollment of many volunteer workers including Ministers, Doctors, Lawyers, Insurance Agents, Social Workers, Young Men's Christian Associations, Young Women's Christian Association, National Association for the Advancement of Colored people, Fraternity Organizations, Urban League Workers, and other Community Service Organizations. I have been able to stimulate interest in Government Life Insurance among Colored discharged Soldiers to the end that millions of dollars worth of insurance have been saved and added to the economic strength of the Negro race. This work according to letters over the signature of my superiors has been carried on my efficiently. In fact it has been common talk in the Bureau that the Colored Servicemen's Section for its sie is one of the most efficient Units in the entire institution.

My office force of twenty-five employees including dictators, stenographers, file clerks, and typists have rendered faithful and conscientious service i nthe itnerest of the discharged Colored Servicemen. Telegrams and letters have been sent to me telling of unjust, discriminating and cruel treatment that is accorded wounded Colored heroes by medical examiners in certain United States Government Hospitals located in the south. Many letters have been received that would bring tears to your eyes upon reading them. Upon one occasion in enedavoring to do my duty to my fellow comrades who fought over seas to help make the world safe for Democracy, my letter requesting a Colored Y. M. C. A. Secretary of Huoston, Texas, to investigate the condition at Camp Logan, Texas, and the treatment of Colored War Risk patients at that institution was held up, it being claimed that such procedure would get the Bureau into trouble. There are letters in the Colored Servicemen's office from Colored Soldiers who have been wounded on the battle fronts of Europe, and who are now forced to remain in hospitals in the south that would make your blood boil in reading of the treatment accorded them. The peculiar nature of many cases in the field occasioned by circumstances over which the Bureau has no direct control justifies the employment and recognied representative of the Colored race in the Bureau of War Risk Insurance and in the field as Medical Examiners and Field Investigators. I believe such a policy would minimize the cases where so considerable a number of Colored former Servicemen are apt to be neglected or set aside. I think that the Negroes of America should know these conditions and that they should be brought to the attention of men and women of noble characters and genuine American principles." Mr. Clifford further stated:

"The policy of segregation and discrimination enforced by the Democratic Administration is un-American and dispicable in the extreme. Merit and ability count for naught if you have a black face. In most every Government Department the Colored members of my race are huddled together in some obscure corner or room and kept away from the other employees just as if they are infected with some insidious disease. Colored Soldiers who fought on the bloody battle fields of France, and contributed to the glorious American victory, who are now working in the Bureau of War Risk Insurance are not permitted to eat with the other employees of the Building in the War Risk Restaurant.

It is to be hoped that the utterances now falling from the lips of Senator Harding, Republican nominee for President of the United tSates bespeak the genuine spirit of the Republican Party and the American Government —a spirit of fairness and justice to all iwthout regard to race, color or creed."

Lieutenant Clifford has taken the stump for the purpose of exposing the discriination, segregation, and injustice practiced by the Democratic Party in the Governmental Departments at Washington, D. C., and is urging the Negro ex-Servicemen the country over to be at the polls November 2nd with a unanimous ballot for the Republican Party and the noble principles it represents.

WAR RISK HEAD OUT.

Lieut. Clifford Was Too Active For G. O. P.—Baltimorean Gets

The Afro-American

Washington, October [illegible]—Because he was active in organizing ex-service men for Harding and Coolidge, Lieut. J. William Clifford has been forced out of his position as head of the colored department f the Government War Risk Bureau. His place has been taken by John R. Williams, of Baltimore, who was a sergeant in the 351st Field Artillery Regiment.

The new head was educated in the Baltimore Colored High School and Brown [illegible]

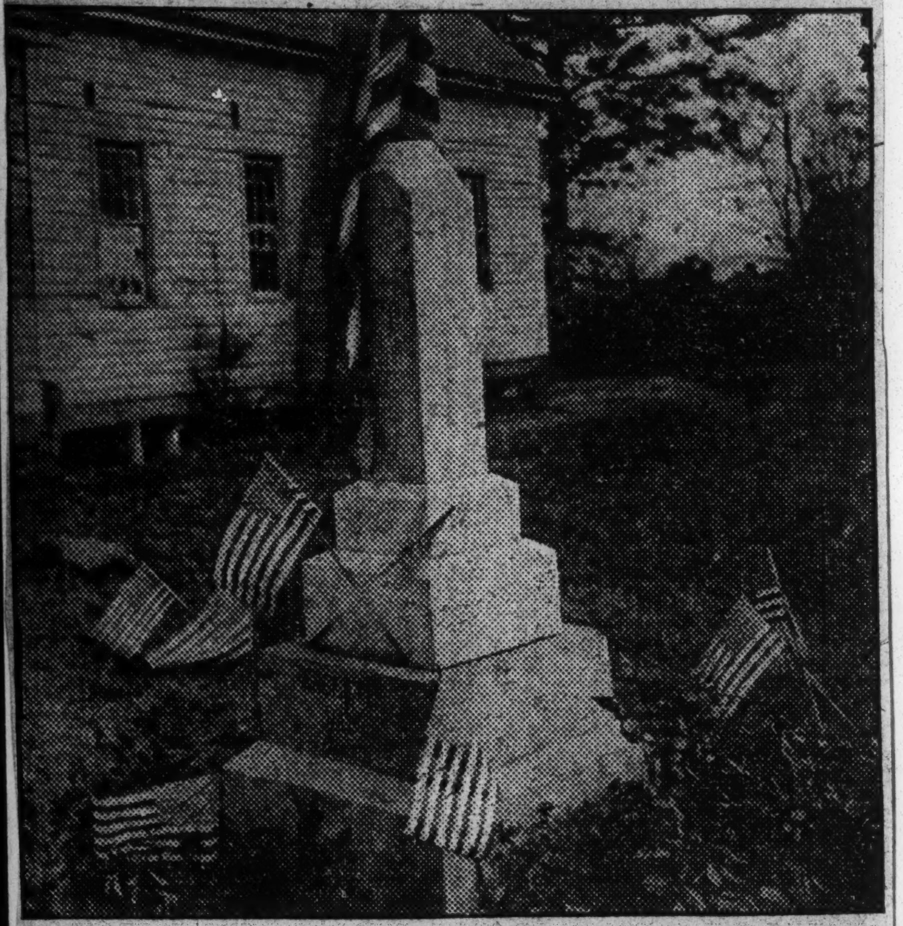
347

Soldiers-1920 348

Monuments, Poetry and other Commemorations

Shaft for Colored Soldiers

Constitution 1-18-20.



Above is a photograph of a memorial shaft to soldiers of the world war erected by the colored community of Harrisburg in Baldwin county. The shaft was unveiled recently with an elaborate patriotic program.

Milledgeville, Ga., January 17.—(Special.)—Harrisburg, a small village in Baldwin county, made up entirely of colored people, is the first community of its kind on record in this state to erect a memorial to colored soldiers of the world war.

The monument was unveiled January 1, at which time the entire community was present and took part in an elaborate patriotic program.

The monument was paid for by colored citizens of Harrisburg, the idea of raising it originated with them, and the exercises accompanying the unveiling ceremony were staged by them without any outside help or suggestions.

To Unveil Tablet To Sold

N. M. Wor
Tusk

-17-22

WHITE AND COLORED SOLD TO ATTEND SERVICES MONDAY

Bronze Tablet Contains Names of One Hundred Nine Local Men who Made the Supreme Sacrifice in Late War

Savannah Tribune

The beautiful bronze memorial tablet containing the names of Chatham county men who made the supreme sacrifice in the World War will be unveiled Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

All ex-service men are requested to take part in the exercises. The Negro ex-service men will meet at 2:30 o'clock Monday afternoon at West Broad and Gwinnett street which point they will march Guards' Hall where they will white ex-service men and marc Municipal Auditorium where t let will be unveiled, the princip dress being made by A. R. La The ex-service men will all be dr in civilian clothes.

The morial tablet contains the names of eighty-five white men from Chatham county who lost their lives in the recent war and twenty-four colored men. The names of the latter which appear on the tablet are

Vance Allison
Richard Ancrom
Remus Bacon
James Bailey
George Barclay
Joseph Bembry
Neptune Bobin
Willie Cuspard
Isaac Gillison
Charles H. Green
Alex Gray
Harmon Jones
Lewis Jones
Marshall Mallard
George Mulliigan
Richard Northern
Clarence Powell
Isadore Pinckney
Sheppard Sears
Charles H. Shavers
Willie Simmons
Robbie Steele
James S. Stephens
James Williams

COLORED PEOPLE WANT RECOGNITION OF DEAD WITH OTHER HEROES; ADMINISTRA- FAILS TO HONOR DEAD NEGROES WHO FELL IN MEXICO

Times Plain Dealer 9/11/20

Washington, Sept. 6.—Destroying military associations that had obtained in Massachusetts for fifty years, when Secretary Baker refused to permit Company L (colored organization) to rejoin its old regiment, was generally remarked throughout the country, but this disposition to discriminate against the colored soldier is nothing new with the Democratic administration. Studied humiliation, either inspired or condoned by the War Department was the rule in France, and the discouragement of combatant troops of colored soldiers was generally followed.

It is being remembered in Washington that when the administration was having its brushes with Mexico official cognizance of white valor and black valor varied in remarkable degree. Huerta had refused to salute the flag and the United States marines landed in Vera Cruz. Several white boys met their death, and when their bodies were returned to this country, the President very properly journeyed to Brooklyn to do honor to their memory. His words over those brave boys were classic and fraught with tears.

Later, when the brave black boys of the Tenth Cavalry, after performing deeds of heroism striving to save the lives of their white commanders, fell in defense of the same flag, it is said that the Democratic administration treated the incident in a different manner.

The colored boys were brought to Washington for interment with the honors of war at Arlington. Friends had assembled to follow them to their graves. It is being told upon good authority that Joseph Tumulty requested the people who had the arrangements in hand to have the funeral procession go out the deserted streets so that the dirge would not disturb tne slumbers of the occupants of the White House.

stand for it?

The Afro-American

MONUMENT TO DEAD OF 371st AND 372nd

11-27-20

Afro American

When a simple marble shaft to the heroic dead of the 371st and 372nd was dedicated on Monday near Moupron in the Department of the Ardennes in France, the honor was given to these two regiments which during the war were brigaded with the French troops, of having the first memorial erected to the valor of colored Americans in France.

Nothing was detracted from the occasion by reason of the fact that the monument itself is a simple shaft paid for out of the meagre pay of the surviving members of the 371st and 372nd, who before leaving for America left in the hands of their beloved General Quillet a sum of money to cover the necessary expenses of the stone. The General was present at the dedication, and the Cardinal Coadjutator of Rheims celebrated mass on the field.

France will not soon forget the sympathy and the courage of the brave black men, who came two thousand miles to save her from German hordes, and on the other hand, gallant colored soldiers, our own First Separate Company among them, will not forget that short and splendid tribute of the commanding general, who said: "I consider it an honor to have had you under my command."

UNVEIL MONUMENT TO COLORED SOLDIERS

Norfolk Memorial Ass'n Erect Shaft to Memory of Colored Troops of Civil War

Journal &
Guide
7-31-1920

A handsome granite shaft erected in West Point Cemetery by the Norfolk Memorial Association in memory of colored troops who fought in the war of 1861-65 was dedicated and unveiled Sunday afternoon, July 25th. The dedicatory exercises were held in the Billy Sunday Tabernacle, and the principal address was made by Rev. Dr. Charles S. Morris. Music for the occasion was furnished by the United Choirs of Norfolk, under the leadership of Madame Mandonia Wright, and the Excelsior Brass and Reed Band, directed by Capt. George Elliott. Lieut. James M. Collins, a veteran of the Spanish-American War, and president of the Norfolk Memorial Association, presided.

The history of the movement to erect a monument to the memory of the colored soldiers of the Civil War was given in an inspiring address by Mrs. [illegible]ther E. A. White. Dr. Morris' address was an eloquent resume of the history of the Negro in American wars and American civilization. His portrayal of the colored soldiers' part in the Civil War was both eloquent and dramatic and deeply touched the large audience that heard him.

Following the exercises at the Tabernacle the monument was unveiled by Spanish-American war veterans.

A number of veterans of '61-'65 were in attendance. The Norfolk monument is the second to be erected in honor of colored Union soldiers, the first having been erected in Portsmouth.

GEORGIA TOWN SHOWS REAL DEMOCRATIC SPIRIT OF JUSTICE

Fairburn, Ga. Nov. 20.—The people of Cambell county have put up on Fairburn's main street a monument to the soldiers of this county who suffered wounds or death in the Great War. Two sides of the monument carry the names of white soldiers, with the names of the battle in which they suffered or died. Two sides are similary inscribed with the names of colored soldiers who died or were wounded. On the top of the shaft is a globe of granite inscribed with the word "Their all for Democracy and the Freedom of the World." A white Atlanta paper finds the monument a tribute, not only to the soldiers, but to the justice and patriotism of Campbell county citizens.

AUSTIN TEXAS STATESMAN
OCTOBER 4, 1920

FUNERAL OF COLORED SOLDIER IS HELD BY AUSTIN LEGIONAIRES

The funeral of Will D. Hollis (colored), overseas soldier who enlisted from this city and was killed while serving in line of duty, was held Sunday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock. Services were held at the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Tenth and San Marcos streets, after which interment was at Mount Calvary Cemetery. Travis Post, American Legion, took charge of the body at the church and escorted it to the cemetery, where the American Legion ritualistic ceremony was used.

An especially large attendance followed the procession from the church to the cemetery and witnessed the services, this being made possible by the generosity of Austin people in lending automobiles to members of the Legion. "We wish to thank all those who brought their cars to the Legion clubrooms," E. C. Griscom, chairman of the funeral arrangements committee, stated Monday, saying the use of these cars made it possible for all members of the Legion to attend.

Dr. W. A. Hamlett, post chaplain, and A. P. Watson, post commander, carried out the parts assigned to their offices in the ritual.

France Erects Shaft to Colored Yanks

The Cleveland Advocate

10-30-20

Mouphois, Department of the Ardennes, France, Oct. 22—When the 372nd United States Infantry, composed of Colored troops left, they contributed a sum of money which was left with the French Gen. Quillet to erect a monument to their comrades who had fallen in battle. Gen. Quillet was commander of the 371st and 372nd Regiments of Negro infantry.

Gen. Quillet, who has taken a personal interest in the matter, has had an impressive stone monument erected, which was to be dedicated Monday. Cardinal Coadjutor Nevu of Rheims was to celebrate mass on the field. The American army was to be represented by Col. R. John West.

MONUMENT IN GEORGIA TO HEROES OF LATE WAR

(*Special to* THE NEW YORK AGE)

Fairburn, Ga.—The people of Campbell county have put on Fairburn's main street a monument to the soldiers of this county who suffered wounds or death in the Great War.

Two sides of the monument carry the names of white soldiers, with the names of the battles in which they suffered or died. Two sides are similarly inscribed with the names of colored soldiers who died or were wounded.

On top of the shaft is a globe of granite inscribed with the words "Their all for Democracy and the Freedom of the World." A white Atlanta paper finds the monument a tribute, not only to the soldiers, but to the justice and patriotism of Campbell county citizens.

AUSTIN TEXAS STATESMAN
SEPTEMBER 30, 1920

BODY OF COLORED SOLDIER DUE THURSDAY

The body of Will Hollen, private first class, Austin soldier (colored) who died in the service of his country in France, will arrive in Austin Thursday morning at 11:58 o'clock, according to telegraphic advices received by E. C. Griscom, chairman of funeral arrangements committee, of Travis Post, American Legion. The ritualistic ceremony o fthe American Legion will be held over the body by Travis Post.

Funeral is to be held Sunday afternoon at 5 o'clock from Ebeneezer Baptist Tabernacle (colored) corner of Tenth and San Marcos streets, this city, according to the statement issued.

N. Y. C. POST
OCTOBER 23, 1920

Honor to Negro Troops

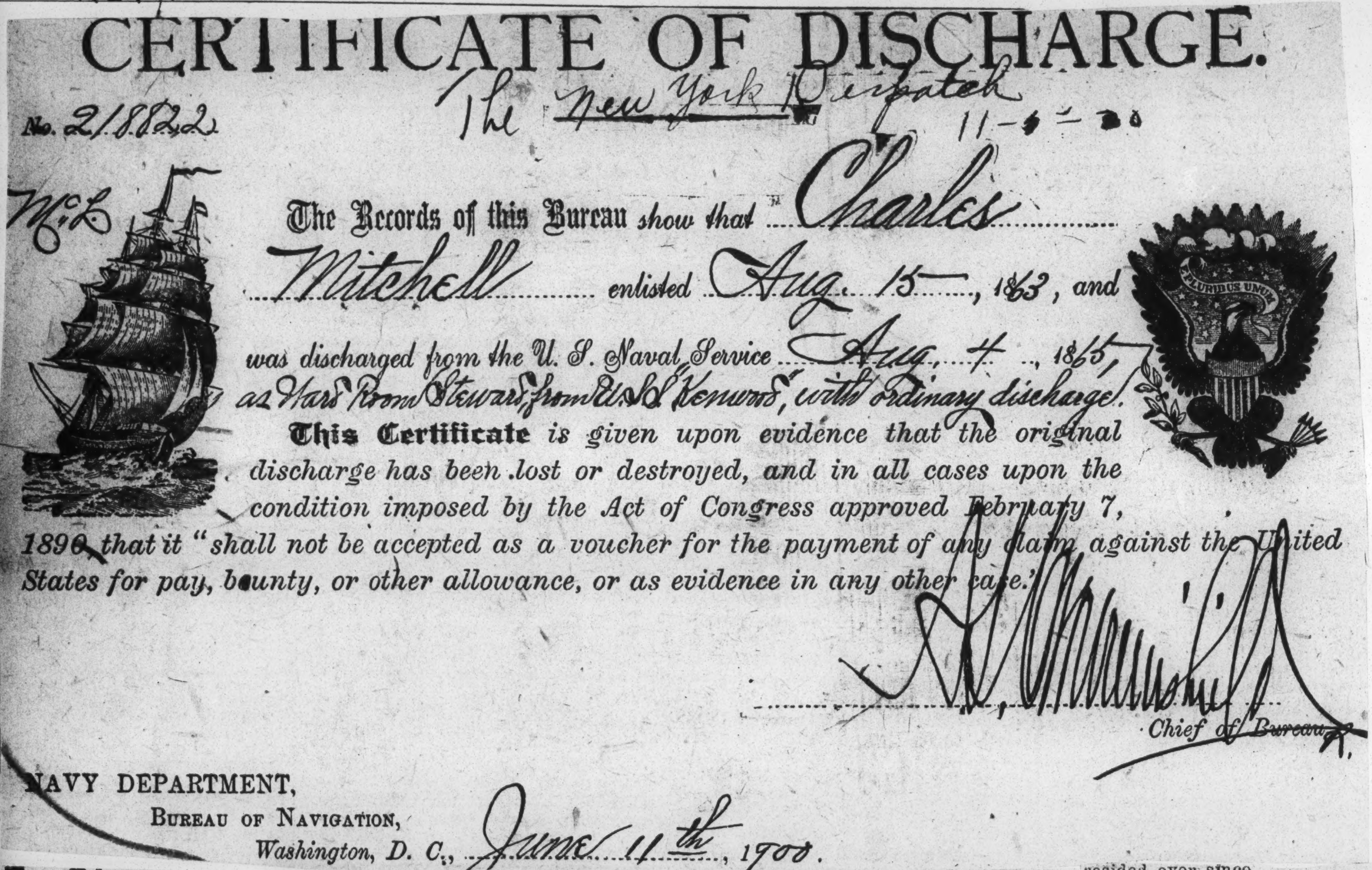
French Monument at Mouphois to Be Unveiled Monday

[Special Dispatch to The Evening Post.]

MOUPHOIS, France, October 23.—An impressive stone monument will be unveiled here on Monday in honor of the 272d United States Infantry, a regiment of negro troops. The monument has been constructed under the direction of Gen. Quillet of the French Army, who commanded a division composed of the 271st and 272 American Infantry Regiments and the 33d French Infantry.

Gen. Quillet and other high French officers will be present at the ceremony, as will representatives of the American Army: Col. R. J. West, Lieut. Col. T. Bentley Mott, military attaché to the American Embassy at Paris, and others. Cardinal Coadjutor Nevu of Rheims will celebrate mass on the field.

Soldiers — 1920 351
Navy.



CERTIFICATE OF DISCHARGE.

The New York Dispatch 11-6-20

No. 21822

McL

The Records of this Bureau *show that* Charles Mitchell enlisted Aug. 15, 1863, and *was discharged from the U. S. Naval Service* Aug. 4, 1865, as Ward Room Steward, from U.S.S. "Kenwood," with ordinary discharge.

This Certificate *is given upon evidence that the original discharge has been lost or destroyed, and in all cases upon the condition imposed by the Act of Congress approved February 7, 1890, that it "shall not be accepted as a voucher for the payment of any claim against the United States for pay, bounty, or other allowance, or as evidence in any other case."*

Chief of Bureau.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
BUREAU OF NAVIGATION,
Washington, D. C., June 11th, 1900.

Ex-Slave In Recent Interview Reveals Thrilling Story of Escape

CHARLES MITCHELL, CIVIL WAR VET. AND NOW ATTACHE OF DISPATCH, TELLS OF EXPERIENCE IN EARLY LIFE

Ran Away From Slave Holders in the South at Outbreak of the Civil War and Sought Refuge on Federal Transport "Kenwood"

(By Staff Correspondent)

The accompanying picture is that of Charles Mitchell, of 197 West 134th street. Hearing of the miraculous escape Mr. Mitchell, who was born a slave, made from his masters during the Civil War, a reporter for the Dispatch called to interview him and unearthed the following facts:

Born a slave in Berryville, Va., Clark Co., in 1847, and was at the tender age of 16 sold to Bolds & Campbell, slave traders, just before the outbreak of the Civil War. When the war started he, like many others, ran away from his masters and sought refuge on board the Federal Transport "Kenwood," where he was taken on as Ward Room Steward, Aug. 15, 1863, and served until Aug. 4, 1865, when he was given his honorable discharge from the Navy Dept., a copy of which is herewith shown. According to his own version he returned to his old homestead in Beryville to visit his parents, who were then free as a result of the war, with his two years' earnings tucked away in his shoes. He shortly afterwards moved to Baltimore, Md., and during the first year of Grover Cleveland's Administration came to New York City, where he has resided ever since.

During the many years that elapsed between his leaving the service of the government he has been without the pension rightfully due. It was not until he had placed his matter in the hands of John M. Royall in 1913, and Mr. Royall sent a prayer to Congress in his behalf that he received the pension of $151 per quarter. Mr. Mitchell is now employed as an attache of the New York Dispatch. The Dispatch places itself at the disposal of any Civil War veteran whose conditions may be of a like nature to those of Mr. Mitchell.

CHARLES MITCHELL
Civil War Veteran

NAVY NOW SEEKS COLORED SAILOR, SAYS NEWS MAN

Many "Old-Timers" as Petty Officers in Engineer Branch, While Select Seamen Have Been Sent to Submarine Flotilla

United States Ship Arizona, April 12.

As has been the custom in every war engaged in by the United States it is now evident that the colored complement of the navy are being rapidly increased on all the types of war vessels.

The New York News 4/19/17.

In Philadelphia posters are being distributed in the districts mostly inhabited by colored people, advertising the advantages of the navy.

Inasmuch as the enlistment of colored men for the general branches of the services has been discontinued a good many years, there is still a large number of colored artisans remaining in the engineers force of the navy, most of whom are holding the appointment of petty officers and are termed "old-timers." The number of these "old-timers" seem to be gradually increasing in these war times.

Hitherto they have been widely

tributed in the navy, so that no war vessel or station was identified with more than three or four at a time.

Of late quite a number of new men have been added to the engineers and they are not only fairly well scattered but a good many are serving aboard the nation's largest fighting units.

The battleship "Arizona," the largest warship and the present pride of the navy now, has on board a dozen of these so-called "old-timers" who hold and are giving satisfaction in some of the most responsible positions in the engineer's division, with the result that the ship's chief engineer, one Lieutenant Commander Doyle, U. S. N., who hails from Alabama, has shown a preference for colored assistance and so the largest ship of the navy is forging its way to the front with colored men at the throttle.

351

Never before in time of peace or war have three colored men been selected at one time from a mixed crew and promoted to the grade of petty officers. This has been done on the "Arizona," the three men so rated are one J. D. Brown, from Philadelphia, and Elliott and Majors, both from Virginia.

New York News

We hope that the new men who are now being given a chance in the engineer's branch will do their part to maintain the honor of the race at the front.

4/12/17.

There is another division in the navy, in which the presence of a colored man has been a rare thing, and that is the submarine flotilla.

Only men of exceptional mechanical abilities are assigned to submarines, and as there is a little extra compensation that goes with the bilit, the cream of the navy is selected for the flotilla. There has always been an abundance of application for this duty and up to a few months ago no colored faces were seen on a submarine; to-day the colored Jackie is widely distributed in the flotilla and there is not a boat of the "D" type of submarines that has not at least one colored boy.

Readers of the News, who happen to have friends or relatives in the service may be interested in the fact that all mail from the fleet is being censored and no one is allowed to disclose the location or movement of any ship for the present.

Soldiers—1920 349

National Guard—Regiments, etc.

LIEUT. GORDON ANSWERS BAKER

5-8-20.

Brilliant Post Staff Man Flays Secretary of War.

FLAYS WAR DEPARTMENT'S JIM CROW PATRIOTISM

The Guardian

To the Editor of the Post:

Sir—Secretary of War Baker's flippant "lecture on patriotism" to the Massachusetts Officers' Association, as reported in recent despatches contains food for considerable thought. When Secretary Baker or any one else assumes the position of lecturer to the colored citizens on a quality in them that has never been questioned it is time that that person had his record examined. The record of Newton D. Baker as Secretary of War yields without considerable examination the fact that someone who knows more about the Secretary's job than he does should be detailed to lecture him on the proper and efficient way to conduct the War Department.

The Colored citizens of Massachusetts do not desire nor need a lecture on patriotism, and unless the would be lecturer have something radically different from the brand of wind and words that all of us have come so readily to identify with so called patriotism, they will have none of it.

Were our country in general, and the Secretary of War and his cohorts in particular, not so imbued with the national spirit of race prejudice, there would never have existed a reason for our requesting a seperate unit in the reorganized national guard. For we should have been taken indiscriminately along with men of other racial extractions, without having had to bear the ever recurring humiliation of being spit upon because, although our hearts and characters are white, our faces are black.

Have the Greeks had to make such a request? And the Italians, and Armenians, and Irishmen? Those of them who are naturalized are considered by Secretary Baker to be as good Americans as he, (I doubt not that some are better) which is right and proper. It is just that they be so considered until they prove themselves worthy of the trust.

But the Negro,—regardless of the fact that the Massachusetts Negro military unit was the first to reach the side of Belgium in her hour of need, regardless of he fact that the survivors of that organization brought back more high military honors—both American and French—than any other of its size in the whole A. E. F., despite the fact that every man of them was born and reared a citizen of the United States, and despite the fact—note carefully—that to criticize their pariotism and loyalty never entered any one's head but Baker's, despite all those ponderous facts, at the reorganization of the national guard they are ostracized like aliens, while filthy sneers and insinuations are thrown in their faces.

The Colored soldiers of Massachusetts(, of whom she is justly proud) refuse to see reason in the so called policy of the War Department to assign them—all of them, regardless of past records—to a "pick and shovel" unit, scavengers and scorned of the military organization. They do not object, and have never objected, to keeping the camp clean—they know that cleanliness is the army's first law—but they do object to being designated as the "separate and only" menial detachment of the whole organization. Put in a few Poles, a few Greeks and some others of the many racial groups with which Massachusetts is blessed, and they will never murmur. But do not say to them: "That is your place, stay in it," for the Colored citizen of Massachusetts recognizes no particularly designated "place." His horizon is bounded by the same sky that bounds the horizon of any other citizen, regardless of racial extraction.

EUGENE F. GORDON.

Formerly lieutenant 367th Inf., 92nd Division.

Member Massachusetts Officers' Association.

U. S. OFFERS OHIOANS UNIT OF LABORERS IN NEW NATIONAL GUARD

Cleveland Advocate

WASHINGTON, May 12.—The war department has authorized the state of Ohio to enlist a battalion of Colored pioneer infantry for Ohio's National Guard. This battalion, formed in Ohio, is to be attached to two battalions to be organized in other states in order to make up a regiment of Colored pioneer infantry. It appears not to be the policy of the war department to authorize the enlistment of Colored men in the state national guard in any other branch of the service than the "pioneer" infantry, which is regarded as a labor organization.

5-15-20

COLORED MACHINE GUN BATALLION

4-16-

(Associated Negro Press)

BOSTON, Mass., April 1—The Massachusetts Officers' Association, composed of Negro officers who served in the world war, voted unanimously to petition Gov. Coolidge to make provision, for one machine gun batallion, comprised entirely of Negroes in the reorganized Massachusetts national guard. In the recently announced reorganization program no provision was made for Negro combat troops.

St. Louis Argus

TO RAISE COLORED BATTALION HERE

WILL BE PART OF NATIONAL GUARD — RECRUITED IN BOSTON AND CAMBRIDGE

20 SERVED IN WAR WITH COMMISSIONS.

(From Boston Herald, Sept. 11, 1920.)

The Negro veterans of the world war have won their fight for a place in the new national guard, which is now being organized, with the announcement made last night by Adj.-Gen. Jesse F. Stevens that a separate battalion of infantry would be assigned them.

It was first the intention of the war department to make them pioneer infantry troops. Units of this character do the work of both infantrymen and engineers in the field, but it was feared by Negro soldiers who had been officers during the war, that they might be discriminated against and made into labor companies. This was asserted at a hearng held before Gov. Coolidge a week and a half ago when it was promised that everything would be done to give them infantry rating in the new table of state organization.

Boston and Cambridge.

The separate Negro battalion will be recruited from Boston and Cambridge, with home stations for the four companies in these two cities. A total of about 400 men wil be enlisted, with the requisite number of officers.

When half of this number is recruited the adjutant general's office will request federal inspection for induction into the service of the national guard of the United States. Then it will be entirely for the war department to take or reject it. It is possible that the department will not change its position of making Negro national guard units pioneer infantry. But whatever the stand assumed by the federal government the state is doing everything possible to recognize the right of the Colored veterans to a place in the new guard.

Can Have Rank Certified.

There are about 20 Negroes form Greater Boston who served as officers during the war, and these men, Brig-Gen. Stevens says, may now apply before the military service commission at the State House for certificaton of their rank and examination for commissions in the national guard. It will then be for the federal inspectors to decide whether these men are sufficiently qualified to officer the new commands.

The Negroes of Massachusetts have been represented in the national guard for 50 years in L company of the old 6th regiment of infantry. This command was noted for its efficiency and soldierly qualities. When it was announced by the militia bureau of the war department that Negor Infantry units were not to be included in the new tale of reorganization, is caused considerable surprise. The Negro veterans and men who had servd in old L company immediately organized for the fight.

SECRETARY BAKER ACCUSED OF RACE DISCRIMINATION

The St. Louis Argus

Taken To Task For His Effort To Shield Government Decision On Separate Colored Units In The U. S. Army.

FALL RIVER, Mass., Aug. 11—The Fall River News, one of the leading dailies takes Secreary of War Baker to task for his expression on the attitude of the War Department with reference to Negro soldiers. Says the News:

"Secretary Baker has definitely rejected the appeal of colored soldiers for race equality in the army. His reasons for that offensive decision he gives in a letter published in the Crisis for this month. He says that it is the policy of the War Department to assign national guard units recruited from colored men to duty that will not incorporate them in a division composed of white organizations. For this reason it has been decided that colored troops in national guard servce be organized into pioneer infantry units that can be assigned to duty, under command of corps headquarters. Mr. Baker professes the belief that 'dispasionate thought' will vindicate the wisdom of this policy. He closes the letter with the assurances that 'the war department fully appreciates the very creditabe quality of service rendered by our colored organizations during the world war, and that, in arriving at our dicision concerning the future employment of colored national guard units, we were guided solely by considerations bearing upon efficiency, and with no intentions whatever of discrimination between the races that go to make up our country's population.'

"Is it possible that Secretary Baker can suppose that his last statement can be credited by any considerable number of the people? It is patent to every obesrver that there is a sharp discrimination between the black and white races. If the dicision is not a stigma on the colored soldier on account of his race, why does the department not decree that Irish Americans or France-Americans or Polish-Americans shall be made pioneers assigned to the drudgery corps?

"It is a race stigma that the dicision fixes to colored soldiers. Secretary Baker may think that the exigencies of the situation justifies the dicision. But if so, let him try to justify it without the falsehood that no race discrimination is intended. Of course it is intended."

BOSTON DAILY SUPPORTS LEAGUE ON CO. L

The Guardian

9-28-

That the Equal Rights League deserves the active membership and support of all and has been wise and true on the latest soldier segregation is evidenced by this Boston Record editorial:

"Massachusetts' traditions forbid endorsement by this Commonwealth o fthe position of the Federal War Department against inclusion of any Negro company as a combat unit in the reorganized National Guard. So long as the present Administraion retains control of the War Department, the action of this State is restricted. After March 4 next there will be a reorganization of the War Department, and fair treatment for all Americans.

"Meantime members of old Co. L of the Sixth Mass. $nfantry, M. V. M., protest against the plan of the War Department to make them into a pioneer company—or eliminate them altogether. They claim, and they possess, the right to recognition as a combat unit.

"The record of the company in the World War is good. The men of the company were overseas 11 months and 15 days. Their most active service was in the Champagne fighting between Sept 25 and Oct. 12, 1918. Twelve were killed, 112 wounded. On Dec. 26, 1918, at Aumonzy, 60 members weer decorated, four receiving the military medal and nine the Croix de Guerre with palms. On Jan. 2, 1919, at Brest, the company's flag was decorated.

"The position of the War Department is arbitrary and unwarrantable. It insists that its prejudces shall dictate the action of Massachusetts. This is an affront to thi State, to be resented and resisted.

"If Massachusetts desires to include in its reorganized National Guard a company of Negroes, its right to do so cannot be flouted by the United States War Department. The history of this State is ample evidence of the determination of Massachusetts to be just to its cittzens.'

This editorial was published the morning after the great remonstrance made at the State House before Gov. Coolidge on Monday. It fully backs up the position taken by the League, the Reconstruction Club, the League of Women for Service ,and the other co-operating organizations and churches. Very little after all was asked and so it was the more imperative to ask it at once and firmly.

349

War Department Insists Upon Segregation

5-1-20.

SAYS JIM CROWISM PATRIOTIC DUTY FOR COLORED AMERICANS TO ACCEPT.

Guardian

The following letter has been received from the War Department at Washington in answer to the request of Governor Coolidge. It states their position. He will undertake to find out by what authority the War Department refuses to give permission to a Stae o enlis colored men when such State desires to do so.

WAR DEPARTMENT, Washington,
April 21, 1920.

Hon. Calvin Coolidge,
Governor of Massachusetts,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Governor:

I have given careful consideration to your letter of April 17th in which you request authorization for the formation of a machine gun battalion of colored troops in lieu of the pioneer infantry battalion heretofore proffered to the Massachusetts State authorities by the Militia Bureau.

In reply I regret to adivse you that it is impossible for the War Department to grant your request, and I believe that when the reasons for this decision are placed before you, you will consider them sound.

There are no machine gun units at present provided for the Regular Army except for the regimental machine gun companies. By law, the organization of the National Guard must follow that of the Regular Army, so in order to provide material for future machine gun battalions in the National Guard assuming that such battalions are to be authorized for the Regular service under legislation now pending the War Department has adopted the policy of allotting in lieu of machine gun battalions, certain separate battalion of infantry, which are to be converted.

I am advised by the Militia Bureau that one such battalion is at present included in the Massachusetts allotment and it is expected that this battalion will be composed of white troops since it is to function with a white division. It is not expected that any provision will be made for machine gun units to serve as Corps or Army troops, hence the main objection to your organizing a colored machine gun battalion is the fact that such a battalion would necessarily have to be assigned to the division from the New England States. In doing this not only would the present allotment of the white machine gun battalion have to be cancelled, but a departure would have to be made from the War Department's policy of maintaining separate divisions for white and colored troops.

At present there is no necessity for organizing a complete division of colored soldiers, therefore the War Department in order to meet the patriotic desires of the colored citizens interested in National Guard devolopment, has authorized the formation of colored units that do not enter into the composition of a division, that is to say, Pioneer Infantry units which operate directly under the orders of the Corps Commander.

Under present conditions, this is as far as the War Department can go. The colored citizens may rest assured that service as Corps Pioneer Infantry is as honorable as any. Such units will be armed as infantry and will receive exactly the same training as divisional infantry battalions. Wether or not such units will ever be employed as combatant infantry is, of course, a question that will lie solely within the province of the Corps Commander to decide.

It is believed that the colored citizens of Massachusetts should be reminded that it is the better part of patriotism to Volunteer for such service as may be required rather than to attempt to lay down conditions which the War Department must meet before service con be expected of them.

Sincerely yours,
NEWTON D. BAKER
Secretary of War."

COLORED GUARDSMEN TO BE MUSTERED IN

The Chicago Search Light

Peoria Unit, 87 Strong, Takes Oath of Service at Armory.

10-23-20

Peoria, Ill., Oct. 18.—A colored unit with 87 members were mustered in at the armory Saturday at 8:30 o'clock, with Col. Otis B. Duncan, Chicago, commanding the Eighth Illinois regiment, as the mustering officer. With the exception of a few from Galesburg, all the members are from Peoria.

The unit will again be attached to the Eighth Regiment, Illinois National Guard, and the officers are: Captain, Roy B. Tisdell; first lieutenant, Willis Stearles; second lieutenant, Robert C. Marshall.

The above officers, with Rev. H. B. Jamison, constitute the committee that will have charge of the preparations for the mustering in ceremonies and for the dance and reception that follow. Refreshments will also be served and the event will be on a scale that will make it a memorable one for those who participate.

The funds for the evening's acticities are provided by the business men of the city through the Association of Commerce and a committee from the latter will attend the swearing in of the men.

Captain Tisdell has been active for several months in the endeavor to revive Peoria's famous company of colored guardsmen and in this has been loyally assisted by his associate officers as well as by officers and men of the white National Guard unit.

CLAIM MASS. GUARD UNITS FILLING UP

Guardian 9/4/20

AID TO BE ENOUGH SHORTAGE OF WHITE MEN TO MAKE PLENTY OF ROOM FOR A UNIT OF COLORED MEN.

(Boston Herald, Sept. 2, 1920.)

The national guard units of Massachusetts are being recruited more rapidly than was thought possible. Nine are already mustered into the federal service and six more ready for inspection.

Under the new law governing the national guard, the forces are under both state and federal control. The requirements for recognition by the United States government are high, but the Massachusetts units have been accepted without a question.

An L. Co. But Not the Colored Co. L.

The four troops of cavalry were among the first to be acepted. The other units mustered into the federal service are batteries B of the 101st and B, C and D of the 102d field artillery. In the infantry arm, L company of the 101st has been mustered into service.

GALESBURG ILL REGISTER
OCTOBER 9. 1920

To Have Company Of Guard Here

Thirty two colored men of Galesburg went to Peoria today to be mustered into the eighth regiment, Illinois division Federalized National Guard. Their induction furnishes the nucleus of a colored company of the Guard in Galesburg. This organization will be called Company K, and will soon commence drills in the state armory, the use of which they will have free.

There has never been a company of colored soldiers, regulars or state troops, maintained in Galesburg, so that the organization of this company is an innovation for this city. The local troops will receive their uniforms and other equipment within a short time after organizing.

The Federalized National Guard into which the local colored boys are being mustered is a military structure which went into effect October 1, absorbing and superseding the former state national guard and the home guard units which have been maintained since the war at various places within the state and in other states.

Subject to call into action by either the state or national governments, the federalized guard is under the orders of two masters who will nevertheless cooperate. These troops will serve as militia in quelling disturbances within the state if called out by the governor for that purpose. The national government however may order them into another state or even out of the country at any time when a contingency arrives. Equipment and maintenance are furnished by the federal government, which also pays the men for a day's service at the rate paid regulars according to rank for every drill they attend. Drills are to be held weekly.

SEC BAKER RE[illegible]KES COLORED MEN HERE

BOSTON MASS GLOBE
APRIL 25 1920

Says They Shouldn't Make Conditions of Enlistment

Cannot Give Them Machine Gun Company, He Tells Governor

"It is believed that the colored citizens of Massachusetts should be reminded that it is the better part of patriotism to volunteer for such service as may be required, rather than to attempt to lay down conditions which the War Department must meet before service can be expected of them," says Sec of War Newton D. Baker in a letter to Gov Coolidge.

Mr Baker's letter is in reply to one from the Governor urging that the colored citizens of Massachusetts be allowed to organize a machine gun company as part of the National Guard. In his letter Sec Baker also says:

"There are no machine gun units at present provided for the Regular Army, except for the regimental machine gun companies. By law, the organization of the National Guard must follow that of the Regular Army, so in order to provide material for future machine gun battalions in the National Guard (assuming that such battalions are to be authorized for the regular service under legislation now pending), the War Department has adopted the policy of alloting, in lieu of machine gun battalions, certain separate battalions of infantry which are to be converted later into machine gun units.

White Machine Gun Battalion

"I am advised by the Militia Bureau that one such battalion is at present included in the Massachusetts allotment and it is expected that this battalion will be composed of white troops since it is to function with a white division. It is not expected that any provision will be made for machine gun units to serve as corps or Army troops, hence the main objection to your organizing a colored machine gun battalion is the fact that such a battalion would necessarily have to be assigned to the division from the New England States. In doing this, not only would the present allotment of the white machine gun battalion have to be canceled, but a departure would have to be made from the War Department's policy of maintaining separate divisions for white and colored troops.

"At present there is no necessity for organizing a complete division of colored soldiers, therefore, the War Department in order to meet the patriotic desires of the colored citizens interested in National Guard development, has authorized the formation of colored units that do not enter into the composition of a division, that is to say, pioneer infantry units which operate directly under the orders of the corps commander.

Get Training of Infantry

"Under present conditions, this is as far as the War Department can go. The colored citizens may rest assured that service as corps pioneer infantry is as honorable as any. Such units will be as infantry and will receive exactly the same training as divisional infantry battalions. Whether or not such units will ever be employed as combatant infantry is, of course, a question that will lie solely within the province of the corps commander to decide."

NOTHING DOING

The Montgomery Advertiser

Request of Negroes to Form Machine Gun Battalion Denied

(Associated Press)

4-25-20

BOSTON, April 24.—Authority to raise a machine gun battallion of negroes for the National guard of this state was refused by Secretary of War Baker, in a letter to Gov. Coolidge today.

The Secretary wrote that because there was no present necessity for organizing a complete negro division, only pioneer infantry units which do not enter into the composition of a division were authorized for negro enlistments. The Governor announced that he would "undertake to learn by what authority the War Department refuses permission to a state to enlist negro men when the state wishes to do so."

BAY STATE ALLOWED A NEGRO BATTALION

BOSTON MASS EVE GLOBE
APRIL 13, 1920

Militia Authorities at Washington So Decide

Advices have been received from Washington by Adjt Gen Jesse F. Stevens that the military authorities will consent to the organization in Massachusetts of a battalion of colored troops. Earlier in the day Gov Coolidge answered the criticism made by speakers before the Equal Rights League in Faneuil Hall Sunday that he had shown no interest in behalf of a colored unit. The Governor said the military committee had at no time ignored the colored unit, but that Washington had refused to consent. The Governor added that every effort was being made to induce Washington to consent.

Maj Gen J. McI. Carter, chief of the Militia Bureau, writing to Gen Stevens says: "The War Department has recently communicated to the Militia Bureau its decision to authorize the formation of a very limited number of regiments of colored infantry, the organization to be allotted either as complete regiments or as battalions.

"The policy of the War Department is to employ these regiments as pioneer organizations, to be attached for duty with corps headquarters. If the Massachusetts State authorities so desire, the allotment of a battalion of colored troops will be made to that State, this allotment to be in addition to the organizations already allotted, unless it is desired that one of the two infantry battalions recently authorized for the State of Massachusetts be designated as a colored pioneer unit."

The letter is in reply to one written by Adjt Gen Stevens in which he stated that the Governor had received a petition signed by 31 negro officers in the late war, asking for the formation of one combatant battalion in the reorganized National Guard.

Soldiers—1920 350

National Guard—Regiment, etc.

NO COLORED COMPANY PART OF NEW MASS. NATL. GUARD

The Guardian 4-3-20.

According to Report of Board of Officers Appointed by Gov. Coolidge to Advise Him in Re-organization of State Militia—Equal Rights League Was Assured Last October that Co. L Would Not Be Eliminated or Segregated—Promise of Hearing Not Kept—Unattached Battalion Granted by Wilson's War Department League Asks Governor for Hearing

The board of officers appointed by the governor to make recommendations and to advise him in the matter of the reorganization of the Massachusetts National Guard have submitted to him a tentative plan of assignment of units in accordance with the allotment recently made by the War Department. This board consisting of Brigadier General Jesse F. Stevens, the adjutant general, Colonel John H. Sherburne, Colonel Edward L. Logan, Colonel Alfred F. Foote, Lieutenant Colonel Stephen W. Sleeper and Major Edward J. Sampson, has given careful study of the work allotted to Massachusetts and the result of their efforts shows assignments that are in many cases radically different from the old assignments of National Guard units, which in many cases are entirely changed in character and for the first time some attention has been paid to grouping the units of the different organizations with references to their geographical locations.

Further on, it reads;

The new 104th Regiment Infantry takes over the history of the old 2nd Regiment and 2 companies formerly belonged to the old 6th Regiment (of which Co. L (Colored) was a part).

Further on its reads:

The 103rd Regiment Field Artillery will be armed with 155 mm. gun [illegible] torized, located largely in Southern Middlesex County, with batteries in Medford, Waltham, Framingham, Natick, Clinton and Worcester, and will carry on the history of the old Sixth Massachusetts Infantry.

But to the end no mention is made of old Co. L.

LEAGUE HAD PROTESTED

Last August the Executive Committee of the Equal Rights League had suspected ill fate for Co. L as an integral part of the State Troops and made formal inquiry and protest against any detachmeent of Colored soldiers and asked for hearing. The Attorney General denied any such intention and promised hearing if any change was made and the Governor's office replied in similar vein.

MEADE CAMP PROTESTS COLORED PIONEER UNIT

COLUMBUS O JOURNAL
MAY 21, 1920

General George G. Meade Camp No. 75, United Spanish War Veterans, has adopted a resolution protesting the proposed plan of forming a pioneer battalion of colored infantry for the Ohio National Guard, and urging formation of a regiment of regular combat troops officered by men of their own race.

This camp is composed of old Ninth Battalion and Ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, commanded by Colonel Charles Young, the only colored man to be graduated from West Point.

SECRETARY BAKER HEAPS INSULT ON COLORED SOLDIERS.

The Louisville

Recent Letter Contains the Virus of Race Hatred of True Southern Make.

8-28-20

Coolidge For Colored Troops.

Republican Governor Is Turned Down By Wilson's Manikin In Recent Decision.

Boston, Mass.—Woodrow Wilson's administration answers the appeal of Harding and Coolidge for a square deal to the colored soldiers with an insult to those brave black boys woh defended the flag, an insult so flagrant that it can be scarcely believed. The recent letter written by Secretary Baker to Governor Coolidge, when the latter asked for the pre-war status of Colored enlisted men in the Massachusetts National Guard is doubly injurious because the Secretary of War is attempting to inoculate the North with the deadly race prejudice of the South.

But let the Boston Chronicle tell the story. Under the head of "Colonel Baker and the CoClored Soldier," that paper says:

"Company L of the 6th Massachusetts National Guard has been in existence for nearly half a century, during which time it has responded to the calls of the Government with alacrity. During the great world war it lost its identity, as it formed a nucleus around which was built a combantant regiment of Colored soldiers. Several, or the majority of its members, covered themselves with glory in the sanguinary engagements in which they participated. Colored soldiers of other national guards also performed admirable service in the great war of democracy. These men fought with the hope of practical democracy. Well and good; the fighting ended and the warriors returned home. They looked forward to the time when they shall again be organized and regain their identity. Like a bolt from the blue comes a mandate from the Secretary of War to the effect that no Colored troops in Massachusetts be placed on the roster of the National Guard as combatant troops. Enroll them as hewers of wood and drawers of water primarily, and if the emergency should arise—a breach is made in our battle line—we will use our Colored pioneer units.

"In a letter to Governor Coolidge, who protested against this nefarious and unjust ruling, the Secretary appeals to the loyalty of the Colored people of Massachusetts to be content with the pioneer units as follows:

"'It is believed that the Colored citizens of Massachusetts should be reminded that it is the better part of patriotism to volunteer for such service as may be required, rather than to attempt to lay down conditions which the War Department must meet before service can be expected of them.'

"The Secretary would do well to be loyal himself to the principles of democracy and withdraw his heinous mandate with regard to Colored men joining only pioneer units."

It is indeed a curious anomaly that the Democratic administration should attempt such reprisals against the Colored soldiers upon the historic and sacred soil where Crispus Attucks shed his blood as the first to die for American independence, the home of the famous 54th Massachusetts Regiment in the Civil War, its martyred Colonel Shaw and William Lloyd Garrison and Wendell Philips.

NATIONAL GUARDS

Secretary Baker called on the colored troops to help him out of trouble in the front line and in the service of supplies during the war, but now he is the author of the un-American order that colored troops can only be enlisted in the National Guards of the several states as Pioneer units.

Afro American

For [illegible] years, Baltimore has had her First Separate Company while Washington recruited a battalion, Illinois and New York wth no larger colored population than Maryland were given regiments.

4-31-20.

Citizens looked forward to the retirement of Adjutant General Warfield as a blessing because they knew that the incoming General Reckord, knew of the work of the Maryland troops overseas, and believed that they ought to have their unit of National Guards reorganized.

Here is the situation in Maryland. Take Hagerstown, which is typical. The town has been allowed a company of 100 white guardsmen. Only 45 have applied, and the authorities are using all efforts at their command to get 65 the minimum number before Monday next.

Maryland is having difficulty in recruiting its white companies up to requirements, and at the same time, it turns down the application of colored men who wish to join the guards.

It is common sense and common knowledge that neither the State nor the War Department has the legal right to close National Guards to any persons who are citizens of the United States. These acts of injustice are perpetrated because the authorities think they can get away with it.

Like paying colored teachers smaller salaries for the same service, the state authorities believe they can keep colored men out of the National Guards. The worse part about it is that FOR THE PRESENT they ARE doing it.

PEORIA ILL JOURNAL
JUNE 26, 1920

NEGRO FIGHTERS ARE ORGANIZING

Reorganization of Co. K., Eighth Illinois national guard, negro regiment, is progressing rapidly, Captain Roy B. Tisdell announced today.

All colored men between the a[illegible] of 18 and 45 are eligible to enlistment.

The men enlisted to date follow:

Willis Stearles, first lieutenant; Lon Adams, Alex Beal, Charles Boone, James Braxton, John L. Cooper, James Davis, Hezekiah Eulauks, Sampson Fountain, William Howard, George J. Jackson, George F. Jones, Charles E. Tourney, Ben S. Logan, Robert C. Marshall, Floyd H. Meredith, Raymond Morris, Jonas Paxton, Arnold Smiley, Eddie Smith, Ira G. Taylor Charles Turner, Charlie Whitfield, James A. Williams George L. Yates, Caleb James and Clifford Witson.

Pennsylvania Fights For National Guard

The Afro American

Want Infantry Units But Not Labor Battalion

Philadelphia, Pa., May 13.—Lead by Andrew F. Stephens, banker, leading colored people informed Adjutant [illegible] of the State that colored men want to join the National Guards. No pioneer unit or Labor Battalion, however, will be accepted. A part of Mr. Stephen's letter to the Adjutant General is as flolows,

5/14/20

"What we want is an organization of the same type and character with the same opportunities and standing as the other National Guard Organizations of this State, and if you have not such a proposition to offer, I should say personally, "Don't offer any."

PEORIA ILL JOURNAL
MAY 27, 1920

~~COLORED MILITIA~~ OFFICERS NAMED

Lieutenant Roy B. Tisdell has been appointed captain of company K, Eighth regiment of infantry, Illinois national guard, by Adjutant General Dickson, according to a dispatch received here last night from Springfield.

Willis Searles of The Journal, was appointed first lieutenant to succeed Captain Tisdell, who in turn succeeds Joshua James, who resigned recently.

Both of the new officers served overseas during the late war and won much praise, with their regiment, which is "Peoria's Own" colored regiment.

National Guards for Massachusetts

4-21-20

Militia Authorities at Washington Decide to Give State A Battalion ol Colored Troops.

The Afro American

PIONEER TROOPS ONLY

Citizens Demand Combat Unit And Score Government and War Department.

4-13-20

Boston, Mass., April 22.—Adjutant General Jesse S. Stephens received advices from the War Department last week that military authorities will consent to the organization of a battalion of colored troops.

According to General J. Mac. Carter, head of the Militia Bureau, the War Department has authorized a very limited number of regiments of colored infantry, either as complete regiments or as battalions.

"The policy of the War Department is to employ these regiments as pioneer organizations, to be attached for duty with corps head-

350

350

State authorities so desire, the allotment of a battalion of colored troops will be made to that State, this allotment to be in addition to the organizatons already allotted, unless it is desired that one of the two infantry battalions recently authorized for the State of Massachusetts be designated as a colored pioneer unit."

The letter was in reply to the demand of thirty-one colored officers asking for the formation of the combat battalion.

PROTEST TO GOVERNOR

As soon as this letter was received Butler R. Wilson and W. H. Lewis, attorneys, headed a delegation to see Governor Coolidge.

Mr. Lewis told the Governor that the Administration at Washington is taking every opportunity to discriminate against the Negro and asked the Governor, as commander-in-chief of Massachusetts forces to order the admission of the Negro Battalion unit into the States' military organization. Mr. Lewis further asserted that if the War Department reports unfavorably, he will carry the matter to the United States' Supreme Court.

Governor Coolidge pointed out that it was not his fault that the War Department had limited colored National Guards to pioneer or labor service, and added that there will be a colored infantry unit in the new National Guard to be maintained by the State if the War Department refused to organize them.

PEORIA ILL JOURNAL
AUGUST 23, 1920

NEGRO REGIMENT REORGANIZATION DUE IN FEW DAYS

Indications that the reorganization of the Eighth regiment, Illinois national guard, which served in the world war as the 370th U. S. infantry, will be completed by a remuster of the unit within the next fortnight were received here today.

They came in the form of orders to Captain Roy B. Tisdell, commanding officer, to report at the regimental headquarters, Chicago, to complete plans for the remuster of Company K, Peoria's unit in the regiment.

The regiment, which is entirely composed of and commanded by negro men, includes two battalions in Chicago, with the third battalion including downstate companies at Peoria, Quincy, Danville and Springfield.

The Peoria company has been reorganized for some time and under training. It is anxiously awaiting the remuster order.

PENNA ORGANIZING NATIONAL GUARDS

The Age

Keystone State For First Time Will Have Whole Regiment

7-16-1920

Philadelphia, Pa. July 15.—Outdoor drills are being held regularly at 17th and Fitzwater streets and recruiting offices have been opened for the new colored National Guard regiment assigned to this state.

Colored Americans Barred By Government

The Guardian 4-17-20.

Coolidge Says Wilson Adminstration Doesn't Want Colored Guard Units

Governor Collidge, replying to the attacks made upon him at the Faneuil Hall mass meeting of colored people, today charged that the Wilson administration was solely responsible for the failure of this State to organize a unit of colored fighting men in the new Massachusetts National Guard.

The colored people protested that the history of their unit in the old Sixth Massachusetts is to be wiped out and that the formation of the new guard provides only for an outfit of colored men to do kitchen and other menial work.

"What we are attempting is to organize a National Guard," said Governor Coolidge, "and of course we must organize such a guard as may be nationalized. The present difficulty is that the authorities in Washington have absolutely refused to have anything to do with colored troops, and if we were to put a company of colored men into a Massachusetts regiment the regiment would not be acepted by the Federal authorities.

"It is a reflection upon our colored troops of the past, which we all resent strongly, but we are doing all in our power to overcome the objections of the Federal authorities. Under the circumstances, it would seem that protests should be addressed to Washington, rather than to this office."

Governor Coolidge said that notwithstanding the opposition of the Federal military authorities, the local military commission has been making plans for a colored organization, "in the belief that it wil be recognized by the next national administration, even though rejected by the present."

BOSTON MASS HERALD
MARCH 7, 1920

A NEGRO BATTALION

With the other changes that are to come in the rearrangement of the National Guard of this state, it is understood that a battalion of Negroes, two companies, is to be added to the state force.

A battalion of Negro troops will not be a novelty to those old-timers who remember the state militia as it was immediately following the Civil war. Then a battalion of such troops was very much a part of the state force, and they did excellent work. One company was raised in Boston and one in New Bedford, with Maj. Gaul, then a messenger at the State House, in command. The Boston company survived all the changes of war and peace, having served most creditably in the Spanish-American war, going to Porto Rico with the 6th Massachusetts regiment: still later in the world war with the French army and winning high praise from the officers under which it served. It was for some years under the command of J. Holman Pryor, who took it across the sea and who is now, it is said, to have command of the battalion with the rank of major. The headquarters and both companies will be stationed at the Bulfinch street armory, this city.

BATTALION IS OPPOSED BY COLORED CITIZENS

COLUMBUS O DISPATCH
MAY 16, 1920

Prominent Members of Race in Ohio Want Regiment of Negro Combatant Troops.

Colored citizens of Ohio are determinedly opposing the proposed organization of a colored pioneer battalion in the Ohio National Guard, as announced recently by the war department in advices to National Guard authorities in Columbus.

Prominent members of the race in Ohio cities have drawn up resolutions registering their protest and asking that Ohio officials use their good offices in securing authority to organize a regiment of negro combatant troops, officered solely by colored men, "thereby rewarding this loyal citizenship commensurate with their record in the past."

The resolution emphasize the "record made by the Ninth battalion, Ohio National Guard, during 50 years of service (and the honorable service rendered by our racial group during the recent world's war, more especially the Thirty-seventh infantry, a battalion of which constituted the old Ninth and a component part of the 250,000 troops from the great state of Ohio, which said battalion returned the only flag from the bloody fields of France decorated with the Croix de Guerre as combatant troops."

The resolutions are signed by C. C. Caldwell, Ralph Tyler, Shelley LaMonte, William Madison, Elias Tuggle, Howard C. Gilbert, Robert K. Stevens, jr., William Nichols, Dr. C. B. Cox, S. M. Huffman, Wayne Hopkins and E. A. Carter.

Fifteenth Have Rifle Practice

[illegible]

The headquarters, supply and machine gun companies, sanitary detachment and Companies A, B, C and D of the 15th regiment left Monday morning for the state camp at Peekskill for rifle practice. They returned in the evening, and on Tuesday Companies E, F, I, K, L and M entrained for the camp, returning Tuesday night. Col. Schieffelin was in command both days, assisted by Maj. Frank Chisholm.

No Labor Battalion For State Of Ohio

The Afro-American 5-28-1920

Cleveland, Ohio, May 27.—According to the Cleveland Advocate colored people in Ohio have turned down the offer of the War Department to give them a Labor Battalion Unit in the National Guards.

"A full Infantry Regiment or nothing," is the Ohio slogan.

Pioneer Company Offered Maryland

The Afro-American 6-18-1920

Chief Of Militia Bureau Says There Is No Discrimination In Reorganizing Guards

NOT LABOR UNITS

All National Guards Black And White To Receive Standardized Training

Washington, D. C., June 17.—Declaring that there is no attempt at discrimination in reorganizing national guards and that Poneer Units are not Labor Units. Major General J. M. McI. Carter published today the following explanation:

"Editor Afro-American:

"Your letter of June 5th, addressed to the President, has been referred for reply to the Militia Bureau which is responsible for the allotment of National Guard units throughout the United States.

"In reply the Bureau hopes to make clear to you certain points that will prevent your making the same error that has evidently led a number of the leading colored men of our country astray on this subject.

"The facts of the matter are these: The National Guard is being reorganized along the lines indicated as desirable through our World War experience, that is to say, the Guard is now being reorganized with a view to having the various state units ready to form Divisions and Corps when these units are assembled. This is a radical departure from the policy followed before the war, for, as you may recall, at that time no provision was made except in the States of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Illinois, for assembling National Guard units larger than a brigade. This change in policy necessitates a slightly different assignment of the colored units organized for duty with the National Guard of today. Whereas before the war, with no divisional units to provide for, colored units of infantry could be organized with no particular place in higher commands assigned to them, it is now necessary, under the law of June 3rd, 1916 and June 5, 1920, to designate the exact character of service which all units will be called upon to render in the Division and Corps contemplated for the National Guard.

CAN'T MIX RACES

"The War Department has found it a good policy to avoid the mixing of races within a Division. As a consequence we were forced to assign colored National Guard units, organized on a peace footing, to duty that would not incorporate them in a white Division. This led to the assignment of colored units as Pioneer Infantry to operate independently under the orders of the Corps commander. There are also assigned to Corps Headquaters units of Engineers and Signal Corps which will function in precisely the same manner, so far as command is concerned, as the colored Pioneer Infantry units.

"The Militia Bureau has notified the Adjutant General of Maryland that a Pioneer Company of Infantry will be added to the State's

incomplete

MARYLAND OFFERED PIONEER COMPANY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

allotment if the State authorities so desire. No allotment of units composed of colored men of any other branch of service has been made to any state.

NOT LIKE WAR UNITS

"These Pioneer Infantry units are not the same as the colored Labor and Stevedore organizations formed during the war. They will receive the standarized training prescribed for lettered companies of white Infantry, and you may rest assured that they afford opportunities for service as honorable as any to be had in our army.

"The War Department recognizes that the present arrangement applies to peace conditions during which the organization and training of a complete but widely scattered colored division is entirely unnecessary as well as impracticable. The Department further recognizes the value and character of the service rendered by our colored units throughout the World War, and we wish to assure you that these facts were not over-looked in making the assignments.

TEMPEST IN TEA-POT

"It appears to the Militia Bureau that certain prominent colored men in our country are making a "tempest in a tea-pot" over this matter; they are trying to discover evidence of race discrimination where none exists. Instead of working for harmony during this period of unrest, they are endeavoring to arouse a feeling of resentment among their followers by misrepresentation of the motives of the War Department in handling a problem that involves only the great point of providing for the efficient defense of our country.

"You may rest assured that in providing for colored National Guard units the War Department approached the problem with no intention of discriminating against our colored citizens and no such discrimination can be found in the assigments made for colored membership in our National Guard."

Very truly yours.

J. M. McI. CARTER,
Major General, U. S. Army,
Chief, Militia Bureau.

incomplete

Soldiers—1920 420

Physical Condition.

Physique of Drafted Men

Survey 3/27/20

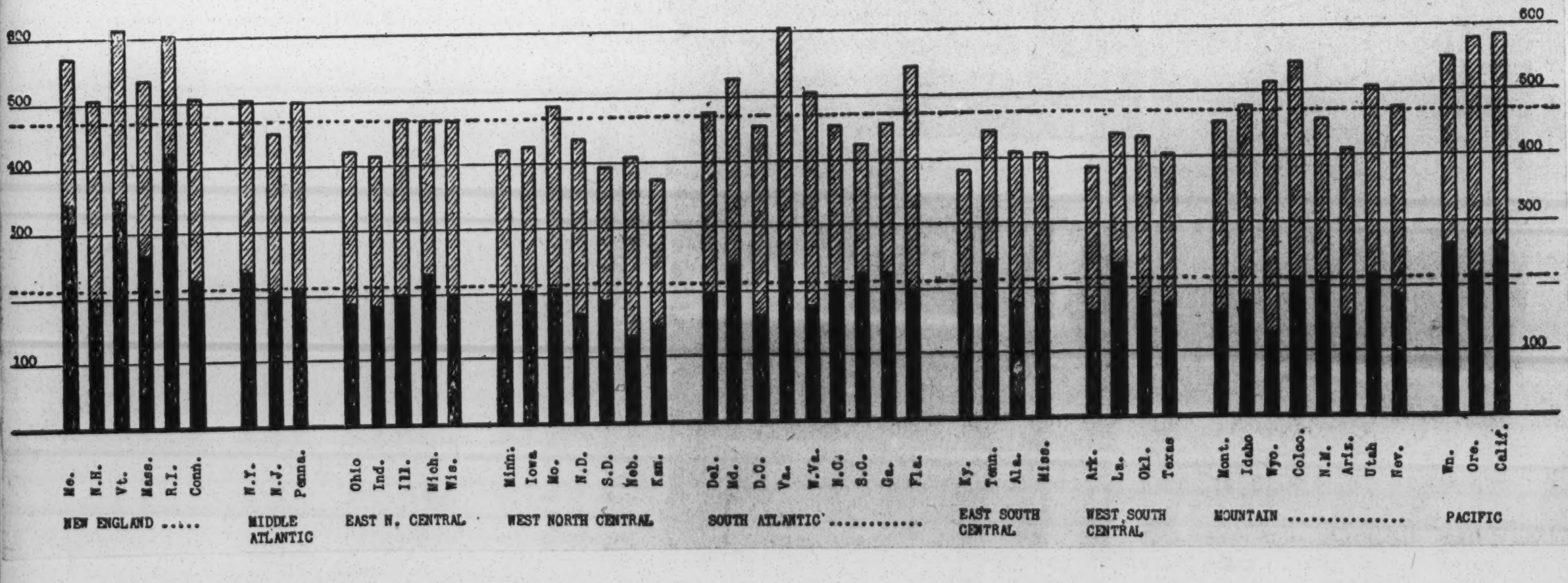
THE "revelations" of the draft with reference to general education and physical condition are by no means out of date, notwithstanding the publicity that some of the figures have received. When the examinations of the registered men, and the experience of camp commanders, "revealed" that there was about as much illiteracy as the census had discovered, about as much physical defect in young adult men as the numerous investigations of school children and other selected groups might have led us to expect, about as much tuberculosis as experts had estimated ever since the tuberculosis movement began fifteen years ago, and so on, a delicious thrill of mingled indignation and concern, with—it must be admitted—something of the self-conscious pride that Tom Sawyer would have had over a sore thumb, swept through the serious-minded part of the American public. It was a shock to realize "how much below the average most average people are," and the effect was intensified by the emotional interest surrounding the particular part of our population which had furnished the material for these melancholy exposures of defect and efficiency.

So far, so good. But such thrills of horror and indignation are not particularly efficacious in themselves. Their chief value is to rouse an intelligent interest in the facts and a determination to modify them as soon and as much as possible, which can be done only by breaking up the generalizations for the whole country into manageable portions, analyzing the situation in each locality, and applying appropriate retail measures for getting rid of the conditions which gave rise to the original emotional reaction. For this reason the analysis of the physical examinations of about two million and a half men, prepared for the Senate Committee on Military Affairs by Dr. Albert G. Love and Charles B. Davenport, under the direction of Surgeon-General Ireland, is worth careful study and will be welcomed by all who are interested in public health. A 350-page volume containing the text of the report has been printed for the Senate committee, but the detailed tables, and the maps and diagrams to which tantalizing reference is frequently made throughout the text, are to be published "later." Meanwhile, the diagram at the bottom of this page, prepared from some of the figures contained in the body of the report, may give readers of the SURVEY something to speculate about.

This diagram shows the proportion of men in each state who were found to be "defective" and the proportion who were so defective that they were rejected by the military authorities. The states are arranged in the geographical groups adopted for the federal census reports. Each column represents the total number of defective men in each thousand examined in that state, and the solid black part of the column shows the number who were rejected. In Maine, for example, the first state in the New England group, out of every thousand men examined, diseases or defects were recorded for 569, and 346 were rejected. The dotted lines running across the diagram indicate the average for the country—the upper one representing the average ratio of defective men per thousand (468), the lower one the average ratio of rejections (212).

There are at least two ways of interpreting these figures, as there are of looking at most things. We have heard so much about what the draft has proved as to our general inferiority and deterioration, mental and physical, that it is a relief to find the authors of this report—perhaps inadvertently—putting another face on the figures. "Over half the men," they reflect, "were found to be without any physical or mental blemish significant enough to record." If, involuntarily, this reminds us of some physical or mental "blemish" of our own, it is likely that we may puff up with pride over the nation's record, instead of experiencing again that sense of shame and dismay that the earlier use of the figures aroused. The most useful reaction to have, however, as was intimated above, is a curiosity to discover for each locality just what the figures mean: whether a high proportion of defects in a particular state is due to the presence of defective or non-resistant stock in the population, to the character of the prevailing occupations, to bad living conditions, to inadequate provisions for medical care, or to a superior climate which attracts invalids from other parts of the country; whether a low proportion of rejections, on the other hand, is something to be proud of, or

Drawn for the Survey



Middle West Men Smallest Soldiers

SPRINGFIELD M MORN UNION
SEPTEMBER 10, 1920

Shortest in Ranks Come from Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma.

Recent measurements of soldiers has revealed the fact that the men from the Middle West, Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma are the smallest in the United States army. Several months ago the army began to study the topography of its men with the view of adapting the army uniform, to some extent, to the contours of the human body. The investigation has been similar to that which preceded the adoption of the Munson last shoe.

The country was divided into 11 zones. Several thousand men were measured in each zone. From these measurements 21 composite manikins were designed. Service uniforms will be fitted on these manikins, so the doughboy of the future will have 21 sizes of uniform from which to obtain a fit instead of four or five. The present designs in uniforms were evolved from a study of 2500 men in one army camp. The recent examination has shown the limitations of this plan, for the average size of soldiers in no two of the 11 zones was found to be the same.

The study showed that stature is pretty much a matter of locality. Only men who had been in the army at least three months were examined. Measurements were taken for trunk, legs, arms and circumference of chest.

Men from North and South Dakota, Utah, Colorado and Wyoming were found to be the largest. The following table, listing the zones in the order of the size of their men, with place of examination and number of men measured, is adapted from the Army and Navy Journal:

North and South Dakota, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, at Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo., 4500.

West coast, Montana, Idaho, Nevada, at Camp Lewis, Wash., 9000.

New Mexico and Arizona, at Fort Bliss, Tex., 1500.

Maryland and Virginia, at Camp Grant, Ill.; Camp Dodge, Ia.; Camp Taylor, Ky.; Camp Sherman, O., 26,000.

Texas, at Camp Travis, Tex., white 3000; negro, 1000.

Mississippi and Louisiana, at Camp Shelby, Miss., white, 2885; Negro, 1165.

New England, at Camp Devens, Mass., 6000.

New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, at Camp Dix., N. J., 24,000.

Southeastern States, at Camp Gordon, Ga., white, 3800; Negro, 3700.

Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma at Camp Pike, Ark., 10,500.

The survey was made by civilian examiners under direction of the surgeon general of the army. As a result of it, Col. Edward L. Munson, Medical Corps, U. S. A., inventor of e Munson last shoe and one of the rst to see the benefits of a nationwide survey to give soldiers uniforms that fit, says the American army will be the best clothed army in the world. He predicts the uniform of every private will fit as though it were tailored.

Makers of civilian clothing also have been interested in the investigation, and it is believed its results will affect the manufacture of readymade clothing.—[Kansas City Star.

420
420

Soldiers—1920
Officers

416

416

HOW ABOUT COLORED OFFICERS?

The New York News
11-25-20

Chief of Staff Major General March in his annual report states the nation will need two hundred and eighty thousand men and nearly eighteen thousand officers for its peace time army. To obtain the men, he continues, will be easy, but to obtain the officers will be most difficult. This problem, he says, has been rendered more difficult by the delay in the enactment of legislation governing the reorganization of the army. We ask the next Congress, which will be overwhelmingly Republican, and President-elect Harding to see to it that black America gets its just quota of both officers and men in the new legislation. Not only is that race entitled to this by reason of its numbers, but it is entitled to more than this by reason of its valiant and vital service in time of war as well as peace. Neither the next Congress nor the next President need any argument to recognize the profound wisdom of having a goodly number of black men in the service of Uncle Sam in the trying days to come. We do feel it necessary, however, to inform both that the black American will not be content to serve without the right to promotion from the ranks recognized. The black race will no longer be content to have only privates in the United States Army. There is no more flagrant wrong done the twelve million black Americans by the American Government than the practical denial of black citizens' rights as officers in the army. The World War proved, if nothing else, to the Southern Administration at Washington not only the loyalty of black men to the Stars and Stripes, but the loyalty and efficiency of black officers, and the loyalty of black men to black officers. These facts have been overwhelmingly attested by a thousand reports. Nor needs General March to lament his inability to get such officers. Much of his difficulty in the obtaining of officers could be removed in the twinkling of an eye if he should recall as many as he needs of the thousands of brave young black officers summonarily mustered out of the service because they were black. We want black officers like Colonel Young and Colonel Davis put in complete command of the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry, the Twenty-fourth ad Twenty-fifth Infantry. We want at least ten such colored regiments in the new army, President Harding, and we want colored officers in those regiments.

MAJ. DEAN TO HAVE CHARGE OF DISTRICT COLORED CADETS

Twice-a-week Herald

Washington, D. C.—Major M. T. Dean, Professor of Military Science and Tactics, Howard Universtity, who was in charge of the 317th Ammunition Train, 92nd Division, during the great dirve of that military organization in the Argonne Forest two year sago, has also been designated by the War Department as Military Instructor of the Cadet Organizations of the Colored Schools of the District of Columbia. The Howard University Professor of Military Science and aTctics is thus in charge of the training of four hundred young men who compose the Howard University R. O. T. C. Unit No. 311, and the battalion of cadets made up of the students of Armstrong Manual Training School and Dunbar High School.

ARMS EVERYWHERE

German Guns And Ammunition Said To Be Piled Up In High Stacks

(Cleveland (O.) Advocate.)

"That Francisco Pancho Villa, Mexican rebel chieftian, fought for liberty for 'the greasers,' and that his cause was just and comemndable," is the testimony of William Ross, former member of the Ninth Cavalry, who has just arrived in Cleveland by automobile from Mexico.

Mr. Ross lived in Mexico for fifteen years, being employed by the Douglass Motor Car Co., of Douglas, Arizona, in the interior of the war-torn land.

TELLS OF VVILLA'S CAUSE

In an interview with a representative of the Advocate, Mr. Ross declared that "Carranza was a despot, who believed that the poor element of Mexico—known as 'greasers'—should not have the benefits of education, and further that no 'peon'—meaning the lower class—should aspire to the presidency of the Mexican republic, as the divine right to govern Mexico was vested in the Carranza dynasty."

"It was over this that Villa fought," said Ross, "for the slogan of the rebel generalissimo was 'Liberty and Education for All.'" Continuing, Mr. Ross said: "I have often seen mere youngsters of tender years, with guns towering above them, armed to the teeth, joining the Villa ranks. When asked 'Why were they fighting,' they replied, 'For Liberty and Education.'"

BRINGS NEWS OF FLIPPER

Mr. Ross also brought the information that Lieut. Flipper, a graduate of West Poin, son of Bishop Flipper of the A. M. E. Church, who, it was reported, was Villa's chief of staff, did not fight with Villa. "At the present time, said Mr. Ross, "Lieutenant Flipper is attached to the staff of the Mexican White House, and his job is to supervise and to O. K. all permits for mining rights in Mexico, and to draw up the contracts."

Questioned about the feeling in Mexico towards Germany and Japan, Mr. Ross replied that "German ammunition and cannon are piled high in Mexico, and that the Japanese have nearly overrun the country in a recent influx."

Mr. Ross made the trip home in a Studebaker, driving 857 miles out of the dircet road to avoid coming thru Texas. He was accompanied by Mrs. Ross.

The couple are visiting Mrs. E. I. Collins, 2342 East 43rd street.

RETIRED CHAPLAINS

Advocate
7-3-1920

LOS ANGELES, Cal., June 26.—Chaplain George W. Pricleau, recently Chaplain George W. Prioleau, recently retired as chaplain in the United States army, has taken up his permanent residence in this city. There are now four living retired Colored army chaplains—Stewart, Allensworth, Anderson and Prioleau.

Takes Place of White Major Who Formerly Led the Famous Cavalrymen

2-28-20
Chicago Defender

(By Continental Press)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 27.—It has been officially announced that Lieut. Col. Benjamin D. Davis, the highest ranking officer of our Race in active service, is in command of the Ninth Cavalry which is stationed at Camp Stotenberg, the most important military post in the Philippine Islands. Colonel Davis also has charge of the affairs of the camp.

White Major Removed

The promotion of Lieut. Col. Davis came at the close of the world war. The Ninth Cavalry was commanded by a white major of the regiment, temporarily raised to the rank of colonel, but orders from the War Department returned him to his regular rank, and this left Lieut. Col. Davis as the highest ranking officer of the regiment.

Troops Well Satisfied

Troops stationed at Camp Stotenberg comprise in addition to the Ninth Cavalry, several battalions of Filipine Scouts, all officered by white men. Although the former commanding officer of the Ninth Cavalry is now serving as a major under Lieut. Col. Davis, there is no friction or dissatisfaction manifested.

CAPT. T. M. DENT, JR., GETS APPOINTMENT

Kansas City, Mo., September 21.—Captain Thomas M. Dent, Jr., of Washington, D. C., formerly of the 368th Infantry and the youngest colored officer in the American army during the World War, has been appointed military instructor of the cadets at the Lincoln High School of this city. In addition he is to have charge of the football eleven. Captain Dent has had several years' experience in football, having played in the backfield of the Howard University team for four years previous to his gradnation last June. Since his return from France, where he had the distinction of receiving a citation for exceptional bravery in action, not only from his regimental and divisional commanders, but also from General John J. Pershing himself, he has been in the Register of the Treasury's office in Washington.

CHAPLAIN PRIOLEAU RETIRES.

Chaplain George W. Prioleau who for twenty-fife years and twenty-one days has been in active service in the United States Army retired and will take up his permanent residence at 1311 West 35th Street Los Angeles, Calif. Promptly at high noon May 15, 1920, the Commanding Officer assembled the officers together for two reasons: 1, To read to them a letter of commendation, commending Chaplain Prioleau for efficient service to the Government and enlisted personnel and throughout all the years in the 25th Infantry a strong devition to duty and the race were always uppermost; 2nd, for the purpose of having each officer shake hands and say goodbye to Chaplain Prioleau. On May 14, a regimental reception was tendered to the Chaplain and Mrs. Prioleau at which time a handsome mahogany cabinet with Sterling silver service for fourteen covers was presented them. Speeches for this special occasion of honor and trust setting forth the high estimate in which the chaplain and his accomplished wife are held were made by 1st Lieutenant Leslie King, band leader, 25th Inf. Band and First Sergt. Wm. Johnson, Hdq. Co. 25th Inf.

Response was made by Mrs. Prioleau and the Chaplain. After all of this refreshments were served; each soldier was presented with the family group of Major Chaplain and Mrs. Prioleau. Before going to Los Angeles the Chaplain attended the Grand Lodge F. & A. M. at San Diego on the 7th of June, but had to return home on account of an attack of ptomaine poisoning, having eaten some clam chowder at a French cafe.

Chaplain Prioleau to Retire From U. S. Army

Nogales, Ariz., May 21.—The announcement is made that Chaplain George W. Prioleau, 25th Infantry, who holds the rank of major, will retire from active service in the near future. Mrs. Prioleau, wife of the chaplain, has joined him here and expects to remain until his retirement, after which they will leave for their home in Los Angeles, Cal.

Colonel Davis To Tuskegee

Washington, D. C., Aug. 19.—Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin V. Davis of the 9th Cavalry has been transferred from San Francisco, California to Tuskegee as professorof military science and tactics at Tuskegee, Alabama.

ROCKFORD ILL STAR
SEPTEMBER 16, 1920

COLORED OFFICER TO BE COMMANDANT FOR TUSKEGEE R. O. T. C.

Lieutenant Colonel Berry O. Davis, the highest ranking negro in the United States army, has just been appointed commandant of the R. O. T. C. unit at Tuskegee Institute, Booker T. Washington's school, local graduates were informed yesterdav. There are fifteen graduates from Tuskegee living in Rockford.

Colonel Davis is a great pride among the colored people, according to Harry Hilaire, 518 Knowlton street, who graduated from Tuskegee in 1914. He has served in the Philippines, on the Mexican border and has been on the general staff. Last year he was commandant at Wilberforce University.

N Y C EVE WORLD
DECEMBER 3, 1920

15TH ASKS NEGRO COLONEL.

Petition Signed by 10,000 Sent to Gov. Smith.

A petition signed by 10,000 negro ex-service and business men has been sent to Gov. Smith asking that a negro veteran who has seen service with the A. E. F. be appointed Colonel of the 15th Infantry, N. Y. N. G., the New York negro regiment.

WASHINGTON D C STAR
AUGUST 22, 1920

High Rank for Colored Soldier.

Lieut. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, a colored citizen of the District of Columbia, holds the highest rank of any man of his race on the active list of the Army of the United States. Col. Charles Young, also colored, who was graduated from the United States Military Academy, was retired several months ago on account of disability. He was the only colored man who ever reached the grade of colonel in the Army. Although retired he is still on duty as military attache at the United States legation, Monrovia, Liberia.

Col. Davis was born in this city, studied in the Mott School and was graduated from the colored high school. He began his military career as a first lieutenant in the United States Volunteer Infantry, in July, 1898, and was honorably mustered out in March, 1899. He then enlisted in the 9th Regular Cavalry (colored), and in two years was succesively promoted to corporal and squadron sergeant major. As a result of a competitive examination open to enlisted men, he was appointed second lieutenant 10th United States Cavalry (colored), in February 1901. Since then he has served with either the 9th or 10th Cavalry regiments in campaigns in the Philippines and on the Mexican border, except for a short detail as inspector instructor of the 1st Separate Batalion of the District National Guard. He reached the grade of captain in December, 1915, a temporary major in August, 1917, and a lieutenant colonel in the National Army in May, 1918. A few days ago he was appointed lieutenant colonel of cavalry. He is now at his home, at 1830 11th street, on leave of absence, having just returned from a tour of duty in the Philippines. He has been detailed as professor of military science and tactics at the Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, and will go there in a few days.

Soldiers—1920.

419

Organizations (Political, etc.

COLORED FOLKS OBJECT TO AMERICAN LEGION ACTION

PUEBLO COL CHIEFTAIN
AUGUST 26, 1920

A message received from the publicity committee of the Pueblo branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People states:

"Referring to a resolution prepared for the state convention of the American Legion by Post No. 2, Pueblo, Colorado, as follows: 'Regarding legislation for White Men Only on Juries,' we would ask this question: Would it not have been fair to have passed this law or resolution before the war; before we sacrificed some of our best young blood upon the battlefield for Democracy; before the negroes piled up hundreds of thousands of dollars in liberty bonds and war savings stamps, and they considered us as 100 per cent Americans?"

The association further states objection to a depriving of the negroes of their rights as American citizens, and appeals to justice and fair play. "If this resolution carried this purport, that only American citizens be eligible for service on juries, we would have nothing to say."

Asked concerning the action of Pueblo Post No. 2, American Legion, members stated last night that in urging the resolution, the question is not one of color, but of speech. The move started in Huerfano Post No. 16, at Walsenburg. It demands that only English-speaking persons be allowed a seat on juries in the court rooms of the United States.

HUNTINGTON W VA ADVERT'R
NOVEMBER 12, 1920

COLORED LEGION HAS ARMISTICE PROGRAM

Smith-Craddick Post 47, American Legion observed Armistice Day Thursday night with a smoker and patriotic program at Woodson hall. Major T. M. Hays was the principal speaker on the program, making an eloquent and patriotic address on "Loyalty to the Flag."

Memorial services for Huntington's colored soldiers who died during the war will be held Sunday afternoon at Carregle auditorium. Rev. I. V. Brant will deliver the memorial sermon.

ANTI-NEGRO BIAS LAID TO LEGION

N. Y. C. CALL
SEPTEMBER 29, 1920

Colored Veterans' Posts in Southern States Barred, Society Charges.

That the American Legion, which, whatever may be its attitude toward Socialists and radicals, at least pretends to have at heart the welfare of Americans who fought in the late war, is wantonly and consistently discriminating against the colored men who bore arms overseas, was the charge made yesterday by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 70 Fifth avenue.

The charge is embodied in a telegram sent to the American Legion convention now in session at Cleveland, addressed to Major Hamilton Fish and signed by James Weldon Johnson, acting secretary of the association. The Southern states, according to this message of protest, have steadily refused to grant charters to colored posts of the legion. The discrimination is said to have been particularly flagrant in Mississippi and Louisiana.

"The American Legion has not kept faith with colored soldiers," Johnson declared in his wire.

South Refuses Charters.

"Southern states," he said, "have absolutely refused to grant charters to colored people to form legion posts in Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina and Louisiana. It is useless," he continued, "to make a protest to the national organizer. It is essential to add a clause to the national constitution providing that no charters be refused to any prospective post on the grounds of race, creed or color prejudices."

It was pointed out by Walter F. White, associate to Mr. Johnson, that 65 per cent of the army of the five states that have refused Negroes charters for organizing posts was composed of Negroes.

The state organizations of the American Legion have relegated to themselves the power, afterward recognized by the national organization, of granting or refusing to grant charters to prospective posts, it was explained.

This discrimination has been made in the South against the Negro, despite the part he played in "the war for democracy," in which the Negro for the most part was given the dirty work, even in France, and made to do the arduous tasks of stevedores, construction, and trench digging, White pointed one.

Entire Negro Regiment Decorated.

Referring to records of the more conspicuous deeds of the Negroes in the war it was shown that the 161st French Division, consisting in large part of Negroes, on the 26th of September took part in an offensive that won the Croix de Guerre for the entire regiment, and that 171 were individually cited for the Croix de Guerre.

The same regiment a month later was the first of the Allied armies to cross the Rhine, according to the records.

"The regiment," he showed, "never lost a man through capture, a single trench or the loss of a foot of land, and as a regiment saw the first and the longest service of any American regiment constituting a part of a foreign army.

"It is these men who have cheerfully done the hard and dreary tasks assigned them, or have gone out in valiant and fearless fighting for equality and democracy, who have been refused the right to organize American Legion posts in the Southern States of which they are native."

ATTORNEY W. D. HARRISON MEETS WITH LEGIONERS

Black Heroes of World War Should Organize.

The Blade [illegible]

The American Legion State Convention, convened at Pittsburg, Kansas, on August 23rd., 1920 and continued unail August 25th. There were delegates at this great convention from every city and town of the grand olded Sunflower State of Kansas. Everywhere up and down the streets of Pittsburg flags and banners were flying in the air from windows indicating a hearty welcome on behalf of the citizens of Pittsburg. There are four railroads running into this little city and at each station automobiles were awaiting the inciming visiaors. I was informed that on Sunday afternoon, August 23rd., Kansas City, Missouri, better known as the heart of America, had been there with a special jass band bidding for the National Convention on of the American Legion in 1921.

The headquaters of tne convention were held in the Hotel Stillwell, that hotel which was made famous when governor Henry J. Allen, of Kansas, moved his executive department from the capital city of Topeka to Pittsburg, last winter and opened quarters in the above named hotel, during the coal strike. The sessions were held at the city park, several blocks from the hotel. There were automobiles from a Ford to a Nash sedan to convey the delegates back and fourth to the hotel. As far as amusements were concerned, nothing was left undone. There were concerts in the hotel lobby, morning, noon, and night, intertainments at various theatres boxing matches at the park, sight seeing trips over the city, and invitations to play golf at the country club.

It is a common conception and has often been said that nothing can go on unless the Negro is in it, so it was the Negro was at this convenaion, even though in small numbers. Hutchinson, Kansas, better known as [illegible] meeting place for the American Legion State Convention in 1921, is the only large city in the state of Kansas where there is a mixed post for white and colored ex-service men alike. This little city was only allowed fourteen delegates yet, she sent two colored delegates to Pittsburg, William D. Harrison, lawyer, and Chester I. Lewis, editor of the Hutchinson Blade, a weekly Negro newspaper, Hutchinson, Kansas. Editor Lewis was immediately handed a badge marked "Press" which gave him permission to enter the office of the Pittsburg Daily Headlight and the Pittsburg Daily Sun Newspapers, to report convention news, having at his immediate disposal a typewriter.

The city of Wichita which has a separate post and sent one delegate to the convention who had two votes, the city of Atchison sent one with two votes, and the city of Pittsburg had two delegates. You can therefore, see that the colored ex-service men were represented in this convention, even though in a very small number.

The colored delegates were treated very loyal indeed. They attended their respective district caucauses at the hotel headquarters, attended band concerts in the hotel lobby, and sat at tables in the lobby and wrote cards home to their mothers, wives, and sweethearts at the expense of the Pittsburg Chamber of Commerce.

At the session Tuesday afternoon Mr. John D. Jones, a delegate from Wichita, was placed on the program. by the Wichita delegation to address Mr. Jones speech was very good indeed. It was in keeping with the times and every letter of it exactly to the point. At the close of his speech he certainly received a hearty applause.

The Pittsburg Daily Headlight, the first day of the convention gave the colored delegates very nice individual write-ups and the Pittsburg Daily Sun, a democratic paper, printed Mr. Jones' speech verbatim.

The committee on resolutions brought in a resoluton in their report to the convention. that the colored ex-servce men throught out the state be given assistance and cooperaton in the organization of American Legon Posts.

In conclusion, permit me to say that one of the most regretable and humiliatng circumstances that the wrter of this article had to endure during the convention at Pittsburg, was the fact that in cities where there were separate posts the colored ex-service men were represented in very small numbers, some cities, not

It seems to me that beyond reason it is a disgrace, that the young Negro, who in this civilized age calls himself one of the upper most in his community and a leader in the shaping of the destiny of the country, and that beyond everything one who has already devolved upon to assist in this great period of reconstruction of which we are now passing and meeting vital issues that concerns every human, almost on the face of the globe one who fought ao defend his country, with the most remarkable courage in the world war of democracy, fails to avail himself of every opportunity afforded him, if no more then attend a convention all made up of the other races, to see what they are discussing, in order that his race may not be forced to take a back seat.

419

I especially appeal to the young ex-service men of Kansas, and every other state where there are no American Legion Posts organized, to get busy and see that they get one organizedbefore their next state convention. Every reader of this article will agree with me in that there are any number of intelligent colored ex-service men of the state who could have attended this convention because finally they are able as the railroad companies allowed a reduction of one and one third cents per mile, and from the stand point of representation, two colored delegates are allowed from ahe stand point of **representation, two colored** delegaaes are allowed from every city where there is a separate post, there fore, I cannot see any reason or legitimate excuse why there weren't any more coloreed delegates. It might have been no doubt the fact that the colored ex-service men have not yet learned of the real purpose and the great work that the organizaion, called the Ameerican Legion, is doing for the tx-service men. I, for one, if no other shall atttend not only these conventions, but everything else where I am afforded and opportunity

Respectfully,

Atty. William D. Harrison, delegate from Lysle Bishel Post numbeer 68 Hutchinson, Kansas.

COLOR LINE DRAWN BY THE S. C. LEGION

Atl. Constitution
[illegible]

Columbia, S. C., October 23.—Meeting in Columbia today in its first state convention, the South Carolina branch of the American Legion amended its constitution to provide that its members shall be white. Every rank was represented from private to major general among the delegates, and a former private, Julius H. Walker, of Columbia, presided as state commander.

The convention indorsed a memorial building rather than a hospital as the official South Carolina memorail to men from this state who died in the war.

Addresses were delivered by Henry Breckenridge, former assistant secretary of war; Rear Admiral Samuel McGowan, paymaster general of the navy, a South Carolinian; Governor Robert A. Cooper and Major General George W. Read, commander of Camp Jackson, who commanded the second army corps in France.

Major General W. A. Clark, commander of the South Carolina division, United Confederate Veterans, was a guest of the legion at the convention.

NORFOLK VA VIRGINIAN PILOT
FEBRUARY 24, 1920

COLORED LEGION POST IS FORMED

Fifty Members Join Organization Perfected In Community Club

The Brown-Malone colored post of the American Legion was organized last night at the Community club, 917 High street. The post was named after two colored soldiers of the 92d Division, who were killed in action in France. About fifty members attended the organization meeting.

The meetings of the new post will be held every Monday night at the Community club until the organization is perfected, after which the post will meet monthly.

The following officers were elected last night: H. C. Brown, post commander; William Lyman, vice-commander; W. H. Jones, post adjutant; A. Mosby, finance officer; Lawton Tonton, sergeant-at-arms; Otis W. Harris, chaplain; Charles Aharns, war risk officer. The executive committee will be elected at the next meeting.

COLORED G. A. R. TO HAVE MEMORIAL PROGRAM MONDAY

VICKSBURG MISS POST
MAY 28, 1920

Five Posts to Participate and Parade to Cemetery; A. J. Brown, Orator

The colored G. A. R. veterans of Vicksburg and vicinity will have their usual Memorial Day services on next Monday, and five posts from this city and nearby places will participate in the ceremonies.

The memorial services will be held at Mt. Heroden Baptist church at 2 o'clock on Sunday, Rev. E. W. Hawthorne preaching the sermon. The usual parade will be held on Monday, beginning at King Solomon's hall on Clay street at 8 o'clock, and the exercises will be held at the National Cemetery beginning at noon, A. J. Brown delivering the memorial oration.

Official Program.

The following official program has been prepared and distributed by the committee on arrangements:

The services will be conducted by the following G. A. R. posts: Edwards Post, No. 22, Clayton Augustus, Jordan Newell and Henry Brown; R. B. Elliot Post, No. 17, John Wright, William Turner, Jerry Andrews. Garfield Post, No 58, Sam Nye, Ed. Baker, and Jordan Stokes. Fred Douglas Post, No. 32. Zachery Jones, and Nelson Williams. Lake Providence Post, Abe Foyier.

"The millions of people now enjoying the comforts and blessings which are made possible only by this, the grandest and freest government on earth, can scarcely realize that thousands in the flower of their existence, offered their lives as a living sacrifice to maintain and perpetuate this glorious republic, therefore the Grand Army Posts of Vicksburg, Department of Missisippi and Louisiana, assisted by the Woman's Relief Corps and Sons of Veterans, will observe Memorial Day with the usual memorial services. The resting place of these noble defenders of the republic will be decorated and strewn with flowers. We extend a cordial invitation to all the schools, societies and the public generally, to participate with us in these beautiful ceremonies in doing honor to our noble and patriotic dead."

The memorial services will be preached at Mt. Heroden Baptist church Sunday, May the 23rd, at 2 o'clock p.m., by Rev. E. W. Hawthorne, pastor. We extend a cordial invitation to all of the soldier boys of the late war and also public at large.

Line of March.

All Grand Army Posts will meet at King Solomon's hall on Farmer street at 8 a.m. and form a line of march north on Farmer to Clay, west on Clay to Washington, north on Washington to the cemetery. All donations of flowers fdom the loyal people will be thankfully received. Exercises begin at 12 o'clock, noon.

We will remember all the brave boys that have gone to fight our battle with prayers and tears. The address of Abraham Lincoln at Gettysburg will be delivered.

Orator of the day, A. J. Brown. Master of ceremonies, H. N. Singleton.

Committee on Adrangements—J. K. Wright, Jordan Newell, William Turner, Jerry Andrews and Nelson Williams.

Officers of day, Clayton Augustus Watson Daniel, Chairmen; Ed. Blake, secretary.

B. T. WASHINGTON POST TO INSTALL OFFICERS

ST LOUIS MO STAR
JANUARY 8, 1920

Installation of officers of Booker T. Washington Post, No. 209, of the American Legion, will take place in the W. C. C. Community House, at 62 Harrison avenue, Jersey City, tomorrow night. Dr. J. Francis Johnson is to be the speaker. Following the installation there will be a social session, to which the ladies are invited. Dancing and refreshments, with an entertainment program, are to be part of the evening's session.

The Harrison avenue community house is doing considerable work among the colored folks of the city, and a series of entertainments is being ararnged for the near future. The Woman's Community Service Legion is to give a musical on Thursday evening of next week. Mrs. Lawrence Mabry, president, and Mrs. Jeanette Badger, secretary, are in charge of the program. Next Sunday afternoon, to further the work of the community house among the colored folks, there will be a mass meeting in Public School No. 14, Union street. Harry E. Arnold will preside. At the last meeting of the Washington Post, Rev. J. G. Robinson, who was exiled from his home in Tennessee by the Ku-Klux Clan and Night Riders for his activities in behalf of the abolition of the Jim Crow cars and his denouncing of the race riots, will make an address.

C. Bion Jones, commander of the post, and J. M. Washington are to be the post's representatives on the community house executive committee.

N Y C POST
MARCH 6, 1920

Negro Posts Increasing

Colored veterans of the World War, whose enthusiasm has been aroused by some of the older members of the V. F. W., most of whom served in the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry and the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Infantry, Regulars, in the Spanish-American War, on the Mexican border and during the late war, have rallied under the standards of some of the organizations to such an extent that with the increase in membership, to use the expression of a member, "When we have a meetin', the walls of our meetin' room jus' bulge right out."

James Reece Europe Post, named in honor of the late leader of the famous Fifteenth Infantry Band of New York, is one of the newer posts that has swung into action with considerable "pep." It has joined the central committee of Newark, and Wednesday evening held an open meeting in Engineers' Hall, 951 Broad Street, which was followed by a musical programme.

JERSEY CITY N J JOURNAL
FEBRUARY 24, 1920

The Booker T. Washington Post, No. 209, American Legion, held an open meeting at post headquarters, 62 Harrison Avenue, and many friends of the members and well wishers of the movement were present. The program was arranged by Chairman Benj. H. Coney and Herbert C. Jones. Enjoyable numbers were furnished by the Misses Sarah James, Myrtle Wilhoit, Mayme Prince and Lillian Brown, Richard Fitzhugh and James Sackett. The post Glee Club rendered several excellent vocal selections and Post Commander C. Bion Jones and others addressed the gathering. The post gave an informal dance at the Community Centre Wednesday evening, Feb. 11, with Lubin Spencer chairman of committee of arrangements.

OHIO LEGION GOES ON RECORD OPPOSED TO DISCRIMINATION

The Cleveland Advocate

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Aug. 25.—Because of discrimination made against Colored delegates to the state meeting of the American Legion here this week, in the matter of hotel and other accommodations, the convention went on record as being opposed to discrimination because of race or color, by unanimously passing the following resolution:

"Whereas, in the past it is to be regretted that some discrimination has been made against men of the American Legion; therefore, be it resolved, that this convention go on record as opposed to unjust and unwarranted discrimination against any American, and pledge anew its determination to see that the law and constitution of the state of Ohio be upheld. Further be it resolved that there shall be no discrimination because of race, creed or color."

It appears that although reservation had been made at one of the leading hotels here for the Cleveland delegation, on the arrival of the three Colored delegates from Cleveland, accommodations were refused them. These, through Harry J. Walker, commander of the local Cleveland post, immediately took the matter up with the committee on resolutions, with the result that the above resolution was introduced and adopted. Delegates at the convention were Fred G. Roberts and Ralph Taylor, Dayton; Wm. Marshall, Chas. Simmons, Chillicothe; Dr. Lawrence Schumake, Jas. Warmsley anl Harry J. Kalker, Cleveland.

NEW YORK CITY MAIL
FEBRUARY 25, 1920

Lt. Europe Post to Hold Social.

The Lieut. Europe (colored) Post, No. 142, Veterans of Foreign Wars of Newark, will hold its first [illegible] social in Engineers' Hall, 951 Broad street, next Wednesday evening. Post members and former service men are invited. An interesting musical programme has been arranged. Dancing will begin at 9 o'clock. The committee of arrangements consists of Post Commander Dr. C. S. Janifer, Junior Vice-Commander, Joseph Thigpen, Senior Vice-Commander Marton Thigpen and Quartermaster William Mitchell.

LAWRENCE KAN. K
Kansas World
MAY 21, 1920

COLORED LEGION POST

Application for Charter Has Been Made

Former service men who served in the colored organization will form a post of the American Legion in Lawrence. The project has been under consideration for some time and this week sixteen signatures were obtained for an application for a charter. Members of Eli Dorsey post of the Legion have given their assistance.

Bud Logan at the Bowersock theatre is one of the promoters of the new post and colored ex-service men are asked to see him and sign membership blanks.

Soldiers – 1920 418
Organizations (Political, etc.)

Band of Bands' with Legion Stirs Crowds

N. Y. C. AMERICAN
OCTOBER 17, 1920

Marchers Are Splendidly Grouped and Win Applause from Spectators of Parade.

The American Legion, placed as the Fourth Division in yesterday's pageant for the bonus, like the Veterans of Foreign Wars' Division, was splendidly grouped and arrayed. The American Legion was preceded by the Women Veterans' Division, commanded by Mrs. Julia Wheelock, marshal.

After the applause subsided for the women, many of whom had been decorated for valiant service, the blare of the Keith's Boy Band preceded the American Legion marchers. Lieutenant Bart. Hunt was marshal of the Legionary marchers, who were legion in numbers as well as in name. Assisting him was Lieutenant T. F. Ward.

For Brooklyn and Richmond, Lieutenant Thomas F. Ward also served on the committee, and for the Bronx, Lieutenant Edward Bernious; for Queens and Up-State, Lieutenant Claude Hunt officiated.

The New York Letter Carriers' Local No. 310, Band preceded the post formed of letter carriers. It was observed with some asperity by certain men that these members of the postal service should be used to being forgotten "in the shuffle," what with their having been underpaid while letter carriers, underpaid while warriors, and now almost forgotten by certain politicians who failed to heed pleas for an equitable bonus for returned heroes.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Veterans Post of the American Legion provided a striking "front." The men were accompanied by an automobile that carried a sailor who strummed a ukulele and sang vociferously and well.

The boys' band from Our Lady of Peace Church, Brooklyn, headed a remarkably upstanding company of engineers of the Twenty-seventh Division. These men had red poppies in their lapels. The blossoms were worn by thousands of other Legion men, former members of "New York's Own" Twenty-seventh, and most of whom appeared in civilian clothes. Never did men in civilian garb march with such precision as did these sons of the metropolis. In their faces you could read a rather proprietorship that seemed to say:

"We are walking up our own avenue to-day and we are here on a business mission. Politicians, please take notice."

As someone shouted, "There come the Peekskill boys!" American Legionaires from up the Hudson hove in view. Strapping fellows, they were fitting foremarchers and escorts for a number of women who carried a huge flag that proclaimed them the "Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion."

Then came a pause in the applause. It was a hush stimulated by admiration, for the watchers were looking on the "Old Fifteenth," the colored men from up Harlem way, who [illegible] rattlesnake insignia on their left shoulders and who fought "over there" with that sort of sting when any foemen were in the "offing." It was after 5 o'clock by now, with the parade not yet half over. Those in the stand were wondering "how come?" Nobody had anticipated such a colossal line of march. But no one grew weary. Nobody seemed to be leaving. Dinner could wait. New York, they said, never would witness another such demonstration. It couldn't be duplicated anywhere or at any other time than yesterday, declared officials of State and city.

Along with the negro marchers, who strode with justifiable pride and whose uniforms were spotless and without a wrinkle, there came the "band of bands." It was the musical organization of the former wizard of jazz, the ill-fated Jim Europe. This band was the one that used to "stand the boys on their heads" over in France, and the same musical ensemble that made American harmony popular everywhere across the seas. Seldom had that band played as it did yesterday, even with the dusky-skinned Europe at the baton. The crowd that had paused to admire the negro marchers in silence broke into a tumult of applause.

The A. H. Gale Fife and Drum Corps of Port Chester, preceded American Legion men from that vicinity. Then came marchers from Elmhurst and neighboring points.

The Moose Band of Jersey City, with its scarlet-coated drum major, preceded the first service flag to be displayed up to this point in the pageant. This flag bore sixty-two blue stars and two gold ones. It stood for the service record of the fire department of the city of Glen Cove. The firemen followed this banner.

It was now nearing five-thirty o'clock. The street lights had winked and then gone on to stay as the shadows began to lengthen from the west at five o'clock. It seemed as though the paper throwers from the windows of nearby buildings never would "run out" of ammunition. The atmosphere suggested a snowstorm scene. Mothers were urging their infants to be quiet "for a little while." The young citizens were clamoring for food. Many an appetite was given a League of Nations vote yesterday. The American Legion and the V. F. W. and the great throngs of other marchers were more important then than a banquet board laden with the choicest viands.

It was estimated that about 45,000 men had passed in review when a deafening cheer announced that the Fifth Division had arrived at the stand. This was composed of those who saw service with the celebrated Rainbow Division.

At the head of this great marching section of a marvelous parade came the Fighting Sixty-ninth. Anyone who has heard New Yorkers boast of her Sixty-ninth knows what kind of a reception these fighting Irishmen received. Many of them carried the colors of the Irish Republic and cheered the name of MacSwiney, Lord Mayor of Cork, who is dying in Brixton Prison in defense of a principle for which these same kinsmen of his fought.

On the shoulders of these men was the triumphant rainbow. In their hearts the rainbow of hope that after yesterday's demonstration a nation will no longer delay doing something for her heroes.

Leading the Rainbow Division as Marshal was Lieutenant-Colonel A. E. Anderson. Major M. H. Meaney was his Assistant Chief of Staff, and the deputies were Major T. T. Reilly and William Kennelly.

The Third Division Society formed the Sixth Division of the parade of yesterday. Sergeant F. W. Dickman was marshal. There were more thousands in this fighting group of heroes. The Seventh Division, commanded by Colonel Paul Loeser, was made up of the Civil Employes Association of Veterans.

The Eighth Division, commanded by Captain Edward J. Kiely, Jr., was composed of service men's organizations in general. There were many of these. Then came the unattached men, and they were still marching under their marshal, Captain William Taylor Ward, when the rain set in. Assisting Captain Ward was Private J. S. Anthony, whose chief aide was Sergeant C. W. Duncan. Deputies for the unattached men, a great assemblage of heroes, were Lieutenants A. A. Siegle, T. E. Rothbome, G. B. Coat, S. Schoenfeld, G. S. Kirowitz, J. We, M. Bernard and W. W. Giles.

PATERSON, N. J., CALL
JANUARY 10, 1920

Jones' Post Organizes New Finance Board

With an attendance of over seventy-five veterans of foreign war, Jesse Jones post No. 220 met last evening in the Colored Men's association hall, 159 Governor street.

Organization of a new finance board was effected with a personnel composed of the following: George W. Reynolds, president; Jacob Holmes, vice-president; George Adams, secretary and Henry Ward, treasurer. Andrew Barnes was elected as sentinel to succeed Abraham Mandeville, who has left the city.

All colored veterans of the world war are given an invitation to join Jesse Jones post and to attend the next meeting which will be held next Friday evening, Jan. 16. There are several vacancies in the official positions in the post to be filled.

Dancing was enjoyed following the meeting and refreshments were served to all present.

CHALLENGE AMERICAN

LEGION ON RACE ISSUE

The Baltimore Herald
10-6-20

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People telegraphed the American Legion during its session in Cleveland, charging that Southern states had refused to grant charters to colored posts of the Legion and asking that a clause be inserted in the Legion's National Constitution, providing that no charters be refused to any post on the ground of race, creed or color. The telegram which was sent by James Weldon Johnson, acting secretary of the N. A. A. C. P. was addressed to Major Hamilton Fish, who commanded colored troops in France. The telegram is as follows:

"American Legion has not kept faith with colored soldiers, Southern states have absolutely refused to grant characters to colored posts in Mississippi, Louisiana and other Southern states. National Organizer has written Major E. Spingarn that it is useless to make any protest to National Organizer. It is highly essential, that a clause be added to the national constitution providing that no charters be refused to any post by any repartment organization on the grounds of race, creed or color Knowing your record in World War and sincew e rely on you to see this provision is submitted and adopted.

"JAMES WELDON JOHNSON,
"Acting Secretary

FT SMITH ARK AMERICAN
OCTOBER 20, 1920

NEGRO LEGION POST PLANS MONUMENT TO ITS HEROIC DEAD

Quinn-Trent post No. 73, American legion of negro soldiers, is showing pep and making strenuous efforts to erect in the near future a monument for its dead. The site has not yet been selected.

A series of entertainment is being planned to assist in raising funds and the post will ask the public to lend its support. The first entertainment will be a masked dance at Josenberger's hall Thursday night, October 21, at which a prize will be given to the best masked. Admission will be 35 cents.

Exceptional entertainment is promised minstrel night, November 11. The men are already working hard to make this event all that it should be and the public is assured that the committee having the entertainment in charge will spare no pains to give a good, wholesome entertainment on this date.

RAISING COLORED TROOPS HERE IN 'FREE AFRICA' MOVE

Hartford Will Have Regiment of 900 Says Colonel Smith of African Legion, Who Announces Plans.

The Chicago
10/16/20
418

Hartford, Conn., Oct. 11.—Before many weeks pass, Hartford will have a regiment of 900 colored troops, all of them prepared to fight for the race" announces H. J. Smith, of No. 31 Mather St., who on Wednesday night was given a "colonel's" commission in the African Legion. Colonel Smith, who served with the United States army for fifteen years from the Philippines to Mexico and to France, where he was wounded in action, told last night of the plans of the legion, and declared that its first object is to protect the colored race and its second to win the African continent for the colored people.

According to the plans of organization, as stated by Colonel Smith, there will be one regiment in Hartford of which he will be the commanding officer. The strength of each company is placed at about seventy-five men, with about 900 in the regiment. He believed that it might be difficult to secure all of the troops needed for the quota from the city, but believed that towns in the immediate vicinity could be called upon to furnish recruits.

Not only in Hartford, however, will there be posts of the Legion, it was said. The commanding officer of the African Legion is now tournig the state, and it is believed that he will install posts in all of the larger cities. In all, it is believed that Connecticut will be able to furnish several thousand troops for the liberation of Africa and for the defense of the African republic.

The Hartford officer said that recruiting work in this city was progressing in a very favorable manner. He pointed out that work had just been started but there seemed no reason to believe that it could not be carried through successfully. Colonel Smith pointed out that the troops will not be armed while they are on duty in this country, but said that when they reached the shores of Africa they would be fully equipped for the duty which all of them are willing to perform there.

Sworn to Free Africa.

418

Asked if there was not some chance that the soldiers in the Legion might hesitate to leave the United States for a campaign in Africa, Mr. Smith said that there would be no difficulties whatever on that score. He said that all of the men who recruited in the outfit were under oath to take up the fight in Africa. He said that this oath was more solemn than a [illegible] which is taken by the man who [illegible]lists in the United States regu[illegible] army, or in the national or st[illegible] guard.

Colonel Smith was asked what steps such a legion might take in case there was a race riot in the city. "We would do the same service that the national guard would do," was his reply. "But we would want to have the sections of the city in which our people were living under our own control. Seldom, in time of riot, is the colored person given a fair chance by the white trooper. We would guarantee law and order in the colored districts, but we would ask that we have complete control of that district.

It was said that plans would be made for an armory and that the troops of the Legion would drill at regular intervals.

N. Y. C. GLOBE
SEPTEMBER 28, 1920

LEGION FAVORS ADJUSTED PAY

Indorses "Compensation" Bill—Picks Kansas City for Its 1921 Convention.

(By the Associated Press.)

The second day's session of the second annual convention of the American Legion got under way here at 10.10 A. M., having been delayed more than an hour while waiting for committee reports.

The national commander appointed David J. McCoy of San Francisco as sergeant-at-arms.

The report of the committee on adjusted compensation started an uproar. The report recommended that "The American Legion give its unqualified approval of House Bill No. 14157, which passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 289 to 92, May 29, 1920, and which is now pending before the Senate and which provides for the optional plan of either:

"1. Adjusted service pay, based on length of service, or

"2. Adjusted service certificates maturing in twenty years, based on length of service, or

"3. Vocational training, or

"5. Land settlement, for which thirty-one states have already made through their state legislatures, provisions for co-operation."

The report also approved the action of the national executive committee and the national beneficial legislative committee in formulating and presenting this adjusted compensation legislation to congress. A motion for adoption was carried.

Kansas City in 1921.

The committee on the time and place of next convention recommended that Kansas City, Mo., be given the next convention on Oct. 31, Nov. 1 and 2, 1921. Garrett of Missouri moved the adoption of the report and it was carried. No other towns contested on the floor, but San Francisco, New York, Baltimore, Minot, N. D., Houston, Texas, and Syracuse served notice that they would be in the running for the convention of 1922.

Two Candidates for Commander.

With the withdrawal of Milton J. Foreman of Chicago and Emmett O'Neil of Kentucky from the race for national commander last night, only two formidable candidates were in the field when to-day's convention opened.

Following caucuses, it was said that the New England delegations and several southern and Rocky Mountain states had definitely indorsed F. J. Galbraith of Cincinnati.

The claim also is made that the southerners will throw their support to Hamilton MacNider of Mason City, Iowa, carrying with them the western states. The MacNider forces claimed they would receive the support of at least twenty-three states, but reports of splits bringing new territory to the Galbraith ranks were frequently heard.

Say Negroes Are Barred From Legion in South

A telegram charging that the American Legion has not kept faith with Negro soldiers was sent to-day to Major Hamilton Fish at American Legion headquarters in Cleveland by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

It was charged that southern states, notably Mississippi and Louisiana, had refused to grant charters to Negro posts of the legion. Insertion of a clause in the legion's national constitution, providing that no charters be refused any post on the ground of race, creed, or color, was asked.

ARMY AND NAVY UNION ESTABLISHES HEADQUARTERS FOR NATIONAL CONVENTION

ERIE PA DISPATCH
FEBRUARY 9, 1920

Booker T. Washington garrison No. 153 and Estelle B. Jordan Ladies' auxiliary garrison No. 33, Army and Navy union, have invited the members of Capt. Charles V. Gridley garrison No. 4, and their ladies' auxiliary garrison No. 47, Army and Navy union, to attend a joint muster to be held in Odd Fellows' temple, Eleventh and Peach tonight at 8 o'clock, at which a supper and entertainment will be given.

At the last muster of Garrison No. 4, Sergeants Floyd E. Hartman and Frank J. Mahoney, U. S. M. C., stationed at the Marine Corps recruiting office, were mustered in, and at the next muster, on February 18, a class of veteran soldiers and sailors will be taken in, after which the ladies' auxiliary will give an entertainment and serve a supper.

The next national encampment of the Army and Navy union will be held in this city on September 8 to 11, 1920, and headquarters of the national convention committee have been located permanently in the city hall, George R Downs, national chairman; Captain Joseph Gallagher, secretary; Willia[illegible] Olberg, financial secre[illegible] Sherwin, treasurer; F[illegible] finance.

ARGONNE POST TAG DAY DRIVE

LEAVENWORTH KAN. TIMES
APRIL 17, 1920

Help the Colored Soldier Boys Today in Their Community Service Work. School Girls to Sell Tags.

Argone Post No. 82 of the American Legion, composed of colored boys, are in a tag drive which will take place today. The money which will be derived from the selling of tags will be for the benefit of the Community Center which is located at 517 Shawnee street.

These colored boys who fought and went over the top in France are asking the citizens of Leavenworth to back them up and help them go over the top here in their Community Center work.

The boys having served the people in the world war and real—the good they accomplished was processed with idea to serve the people some more by starting a Community Center for the benefit of the community, and now they are in a drive and are asking the public to help them out. This is a worthy cause these boys have undertaken ad deserves much credit and they are merely asking the public to do their bit by buying a tag or two.

The tags will be sold by the Leavenworth high school girls in the down town district and some of them will make a house to house canvass invading the home of the housewife. When these girls come around do not refuse them but do your bit and buy a tag or two.

COLORED LEGION POST WILL STAGE CAMPAIGN

ASHVILLE N. C. CITIZEN
MAY 16, 1920

Membership Drive on for All This Week With Roll of 200 as Their Goal

Every member of John Boyd post, colored, of the American legion has been appointed on one of the two teams which this week will make a membership drive, which has for its aim the securing of every colored soldier in Buncombe county as an active member of the legion.

Plans for the drive are practically the same as that of the Kiffin Rockwell post of the legion. Asheville has been divided into two parts by Biltmore avenue and Broadway.

Deaderick Nelson is the director of the whole campaign for John Boyd post. To captain the team having the east side of the city, Charles E. Edwards was chosen, with Nathaniel Lester as his lieutenant. Ernest B. McKissick will captain the west side team, and Howard T. Tobs will act as his lieutenant.

An intensive drive will be staged Monday and Tuesday, and the remainder of the week devoted to rounding up the stragglers not secured the first two days. The entire week will be spent on the drive, just as outlined by the national organization.

Slides telling of the coming drive have been shown all last week in the Star theater and announcement will be made in the colored churches of the city today.

At present there are 75 names on the roll, fifty of whom have paid up their membership dues. There are many colored soldiers in the city and county who are not members, many of them only transients, working in hotels, but nevertheless ex-service men who should be part of the local post. Officers hope to have a membership of between 175 and 200 by the end of the week.

LEGION IS CLOSED TO SOUTHERN NEGROES

N. Y. C. SUN
SEPTEMBER 29, 1920

Charters Refused, Says Protest to Major Fish.

American Legion organizations of Southern States have refused to issue charters to posts formed of negroes, according to a telegram sent yesterday in protest to Major Hamilton Fish at the national American Legion headquarters in Cleveland. It was charged in the message, which was sent by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 70 Fifth avenue, that the [illegible] chiefly had been taking place in Mississippi and Louisiana.

A request was made for the insertion of a clause in the constitution of the American Legion providing that no charter should be refused to any post on the ground of race, creed or color. Major Fish commanded negro troops in France.

ATLANTIC CITY N J GAZETTE
JUNE 9, 1920

COLORED VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

All colored men who have served in the United States Army, Navy or Marines are requested to attend a meeting for the purpose of forming a colored branch of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. There will be able speakers present to explain to you just what advantages there are to be derived by connecting yourself with this organization. Take advantage of this opportunity and become a charter member. Bring your discharge [illegible] For further information inquire of John C. Scarr. The meeting starts at 8 o'clock tomorrow night —June, the 9th.

AMBITION OF HERBERT KILLS RESOLUTION

(By the Associated Negro Press)

Boston, Mass., Oct. 14.—Monroe Mason, delegate to the National Convention of the American Legion from William E. Carter post 16, Roxbury, on his return from Celeveland made a statement in regard to the loss of the Negro resolution which was passed at the Springfield convention. Mason says the resolution was sidetracked because its appearance on the floor would hurt Col. Herbert's candidacy for national commander.

The purpose of the resolution is to provide for the 300,000 Negro ex-service men who desire to form posts of the American Legion but who are prevented from doing so by Southern prejudice. To receive a charter it is necessary for a post to obtain the sanction of the state headquarters. The state departments in the South will not further applications of such posts.

At Springfield it was decided to bring the matter before the national convention and Mason who went there in that interest charges the ambition of the Massachusetts man kept 300,000 from obtaining fair play. Mason has arranged with the national executive committee for an immediate hearing at which he will present data from each jurisdiction where it is claimed post charters are refused certification.

FORMATION OF COLORED MILITARY DIVISION BEING CONSIDERED

3-8-21

The Freeman

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 28.—The Senate Military Affairs Committee is giving consideration at this time to the reorganization of the United States Army, all of which serves to call attention to the address delivered by Dr. Emmett J. Scott, at the annual meeting of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, held last June in Cleveland, Ohio. At that time, Dr. Scott urged that the contribution of the colored people to the winning of the war deserved the special recognition of the American Government by the incorporation of a full and complete Infantry Division, with all of its auxiliaries, and with Colored officers, as a part of the permanent strength of the army of the United States. At present, only four regiments of colored troops—the Ninth and enth Calvary and the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Infantry commands form a part of the Army.

FORM NEW LEGION POST AT LANCASTER, PA.

Cleveland Advocate

LANCASTER, Pa., Sept. [illegible]—The Colored war veterans of Burlington, near here, have organized an American Legion Post. Lardnet W. Ridout, William Feresbee, Oliver Todd, James Dawson and Russell Meridith, were elected officers of the post.

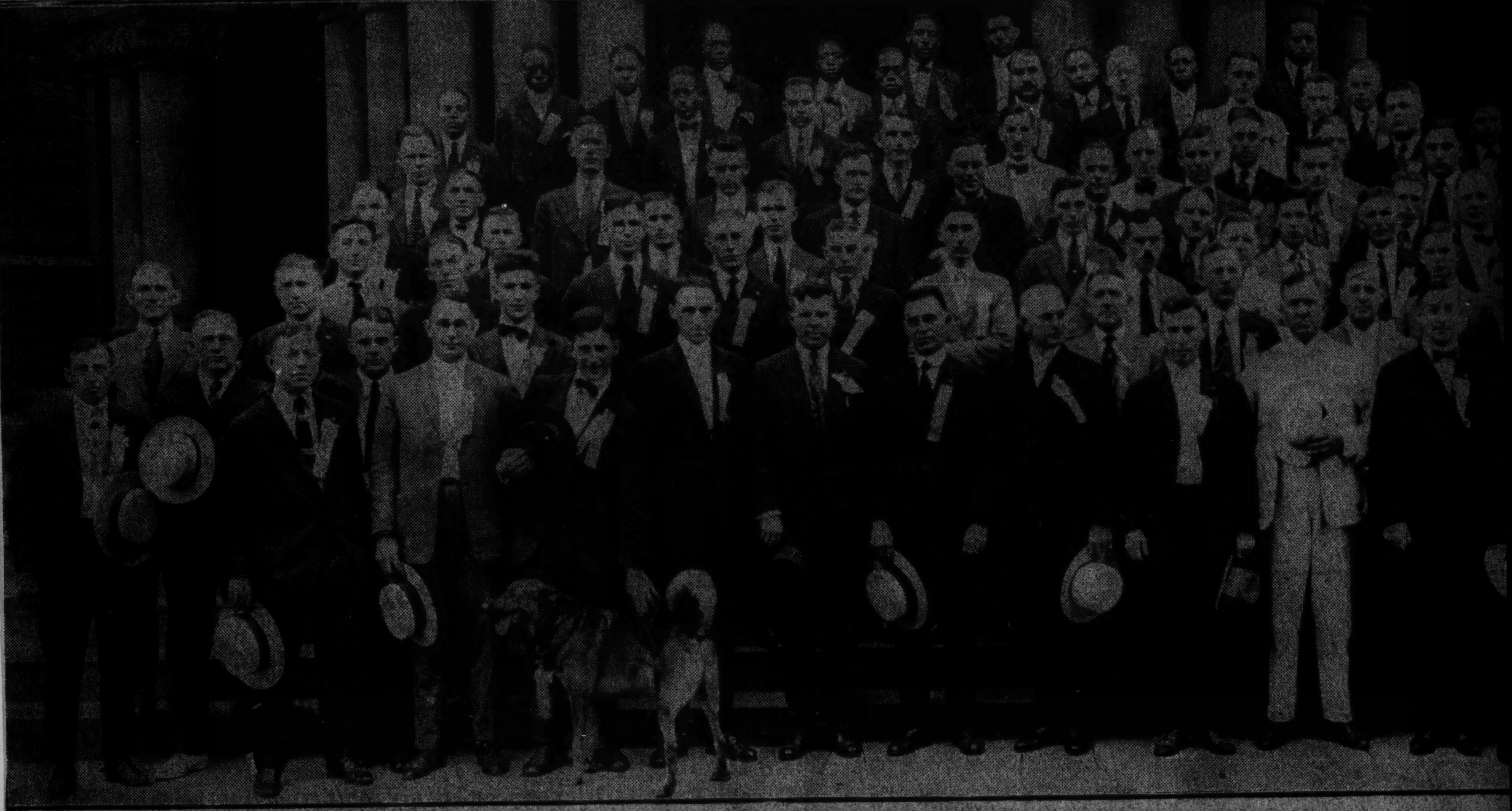
Soldiers—1920
Organizations (Political, etc.

417

417

Tennessee State American Legion Co

St. Louis Clarion 9/4/20



Colored delegates from left to right: Parker, Memphis; Kirk, Jackson; Reid, Jackson; Pamphlet, Memphis; Myles, Memphis; Reid, Memphis; Goss, Chattanooga; Gudger, Memphis; Olde
Memphis; Collins, Memphis; and Durruh, Chattanooga.

THE HIGHEST PROGRESS

There they stand before you, in the rear but highest on the picture, background to a picture as they are backstop to the civilization of their country-these colored members of the Tennes
growth, against wicked odds eager and alert, of the spirit of brotherhood in America; a spirit taunted and annoyed by black men crying "hate" and white men crying "blood." I gaze upon th
though storms rage and men hunt men in the night, the mandates of God will be respected, and those that faint not are as certain to rise to their feet as stars are to shine in their pleasure.
This picture was taken on the steps of Crossett Public Library, Memphis, center and capital of Negro talk. Within the portals a Negro may not enter and sit to scan pages of the books.
and bids her to remember that steps that count are few and far between, and that distance that seems shortest is always longest. The New South will not be the old South. It could not be.
Scan the picture again; See white men, the best in the South; white women, idols of their men, and colored men, the best in their race, standing together;—indicating that the day when al
ity before the law, is approaching. Those that do not see this are blind to light and deaf to reason. I say, as I look upon this picture, as I have said a thousand times: "I am not to be moved t

417

nvention

, Memphis; Whiteman, Memphis; Taylor, Memphis; Lee,

* * *

e American Legion. This photograph is indicative of the
picture, gaze long and proudly, understanding as I look, that,

But progress has her way and plans. Patience is her language,

of us shall be a people of peace and law and order and equal-
om my place, nor silenced in my hopes."

Colored Question Decided 206-205

HITS CONGRESS ON BONUS DELAY

SPRINGFIELD M. REPUBLICAN
AUGUST 28, 1920

Resolution on Bounty Passed Unanimously, After 10 Seconds Consideration—Negro Issue Arouses Heated Discussion—Great Ovation to Gen C. R. Edwards, Old Yankee Division Commander—Electioneering Rampant in Behalf of Candidates

By a unanimous vote, after just 10 seconds' consideration, the four-fold bonus for veterans of the world war was approved by the Massachusetts department of the American Legion at its second annual convention in the Springfield Auditorium yesterday afternoon. This decisive action on the part of the Massachusetts Legion men in convention decidedly affirms the position of the national executive committee of the Legion in regard to the bonus plan and will be communicated to Congress and passage of the desired legislation re-urged.

Second in importance in the doings of the day was the adoption at the evening session of a resolution urging the due recognition of colored Legion men and their posts. This resolution was only adopted after the hottest kind of an argument and then won out by only one vote. Several other resolutions, as passed on by the convention's resolutions committee, were adopted last night, and others come before the Legion delegates' consideration to-day. The more important resolutions adopted last evening follow:—

The Negro Resolution

"Whereas it has come to our notice that many departments of the American Legion in the southern states have pblicly declared that former colored world war veterans shall not have the privilege after forming a post to get due recognition by certification of their post charters to the national organization and due certification in several cases has been refused, and

"Whereas as this is a condition that needs immediate consideration in justice and right to our comrades in the southland,

"Be it resilved, that it is the sense of this department in convention assembled that our colored comrades and their posts be given due recognition by the proper state departments and the national organization."

A resolution was adopted advocating that the state executive committee be empowered to raise funds to carry on Americanization work under the auspices of the Legion.

A resolution was adopted advocating that colleges in the United States give credit in their entrance requirements to American history and civics

A resolution was adopted advocating that certificates be issued to disabled former members of the army, navy and marine corps which will insure the mthe right to purchase supplies for themselves and their families at any authorized sales establishment conducted by the army, navy and marine corps.

A resolution was adopted that "the American Legion be issued for funeral purposes and other ceremonies incidental to their functions for each post as may properly apply and comply with the rules, requirements, and regulations applying to such issues, a stand of 10 Springfield rifles of the pattern or model of 1903, or equivlent together with slings, bayonets, bayonet scabards, waistbelts, and a supply of blank ammunition as may be provided under the law.' (adopted).

Greetings From New Hampshire

Last evening's session of the convention was called to order at 8.30 in the Auditorium and a telegram read to the assembled delegates from Frank J. Abbot, adjutant of the New Hampshire department, in which cordial greetings were expressed and statement made that the New Hampshire Legion men had also indorsed the four-fold bonus proposition. Wild applause greeted this announcement.

W. A. Robinson of Arlington, chairman of the Massachusetts memorial commission was then introduced and addressed the assembly on the subject of his commission's work. He told how the number of Massachusetts dead in the great war was originally given out as 3380 and how his commission, by dint of intricate investigation had added the names of hundreds of theretofore unidentified dead to the roll. He ended with a plea for aid in his work from Legion men.

No sooner had Mr Robinson left the platform than an unknown delegate jumped to his feet in the rear of the hall and shouted: "I've never before heard so many time-killers as I've heard to-day—let's get down to business."

As if in answer to this complaint a representative of the resolutions committee, which had been in private session since 2 in the basement below the Auditorium, stepped forth and stated that the committee had handled 125 resolutions since assembling in private session, had covered practically all the subjects brought before them, but could not make a formal report before 10. He added, however, that he would bring up as many resolutions as were in presentable form and read them for the consideration of the convention, if so desired. It was voted to hear as many resolutions at that time as possible.

While the delegates were awaiting the return of the resolutions committee a motion was passed to elect district delegates.

NEGRO ORGANIZATION PROTESTS TO LEGION

NATCHEZ MISS DEMOCRAT
SEPTEMBER 20, 1920

NEW YORK, Sept. 28—A telegram charging the American Legion has not kept faith with negro soldiers was sent today to Major Hamilton Fish, at American Legion headquarters at Cleveland by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

It was charged that southern states, notably Mississippi and Louisiana had refused to grant charters to negro posts of the legion. Insertion of a clause in the legion's national constitution, providing that no charters be refused any post on the ground of race, creed or color, was asked.

American Legion at Hamilton

Hamilton, Ohio, Feb. 27—At a meeting in this city of a number of former soldiers another post of the American Legion was established and is to be known as the Lewis Whitaker. No information has been obtained as to what Whitaker is referred to, but it is known that the Lewis is for Clyde Lewis, who was a chauffeur for Marcus Goodman before the war. Wesley Morris, county organizer, conducted the meetings and aided this post in getting organized. Officers elected wree: Wm. Johnson, commander; Lon Meeley, vice commander; Chester Sampson, adjutant; Steven Burgeon, treasurer; M. Mason, Okey [illegible] and Geo McGee, executive committee; T. Whitworth, M. Roberts and Geo. Riley, delegates to the county council.

Soldiers—1920 422
Regiments, Regular Army, etc.

425

MEMO

September 13, 1920.

The newspapers of the country gave the widest publicity to the fact that four colored regiments of the regular Army were open for enlistment in July and August that was ever given to such an opportunity. The notice and comment about this in the [illegible] press raised the question as to whether there was any propaganda behind this to get enlistments for the colored regiments. When one read the reports in colored newspapers about the treatment of the privates in these regiments, and the difficulties experienced in securing new recruits, there is a probability that this propaganda was inspired.

THE NEGRO AND THE ARMY

The Houston Observer

7-20-20

It may have been noticed recently that recruiting for the United States Army has been extended among Negroes locally and elsewhere. This is a rare occurrence but in this instance it has reason.

In former years, in war time as well as in peace, the four regular army Negro regiments could be kept at full strength with the least effort at recruiting. In 1917 when war was declared these same four regiments, along with other smaller units, were readily filled to war strength and then Negro volunteers were turned away at the recruiting offices,—to be drafted a few months later for labor battalions. The "strong-arm" methods and "hard-boiled" tactics of the white officers of these labor battalions has been too well described before. We might add that some of them were very similar to the conditions in the old time convict camp with the armed guards etc.,—but the end of the war soon brought relief to most of these loyal boys—so inconsistently handled by the army and they are back home now with just a little more of a mans' chance.

But what of their white officers? Some of them, "made" during the war, had become such past masters in "handling niggers" that they have been placed with the colored regiments of the regular army. Mentally and morally unfit for such service, unseasoned and out of place, some of these "hard-boiled" ninety day officers are making a mess of the army.

RESULTS:—

On Monday morning of last week nearly forty discharged members of the 24th Infantry passed through Houston enroute to their homes in the East. A representative of The Observer interviewed a number of them and gleaned the following facts: The regiment was going down; as soon as the time of enlistment was up the boys were leaving for home and other callings; nobody wanted to re-enlist. Some of the companies had less than thirty men left in them. When asked why, they answered with a shrug: "no place for a man", "too humiliating" etc. Some incidents were related carrying out these facts. Another incident was told showing negligence by the army: A colored non-com officer, Sergeant Woods, was sent to Columbus, Ga., for recruiting service. He was killed by some Georgia "crackers"—reason not known, and the army has not yet done anything to bring about a reckonig for this man's life—to avenge his murder.

No respect, no protection, no encouragement,—what inducement are there for the Negro to join the army?

Now the army needs the Negro. There should be twice as many Negro regiments in the regular army and a national guard regiment for every state with a reasonable Negro population. (Of course we understand that this is not desired in the South) But these regiments, to be a success, should be officered by colored officers from Colonel on down. The Observer voices the question in the minds of millions of Americans: Why can not the 9th and 10th Cavalry regiments and the 24th and 25th Infantry regiments have Negro officers? Much trouble and friction would be avoided and the Negro's relation to the army would be much more respectable and congenial.

The Dallas Express

8-7-20

THE NEGRO AND THE ARMY.

It may have been noticed recently that recruiting for the United States Army has been extended among Negroes locally and elsewhere. This is a rare occurence but in this instance it has a reason.

In former years, in war time as well as in peace, the four regular army Negro regiments could be kept at full strength with the least effort at recruiting. In 1917 when war was declared these same four regiments, along with other smaller units, were readily filled to war strength and then Negro volunteers were turned away at the recruiting offices—to be drafted a few months later for labor battalions. The "strong-arm" methods and "hard-boiled" tactics of the white officers of these labor battalions has been too well described before. We might add that some of them were very similar to the conditions in the old time convict camp with the armed guards, etc.,—but the end of the war soon brought relief to most of these loyal boys—so inconsistently handled by the army and they are back home how with just a little more of a man's chance.

But what of their white officers? Some of them, "made" during the war, had become such past masters in "handling niggers" that they have been placed with the Colored regiments of the regular army. Mentally and morally unfit for such service, unseasoned and out of place, some of these "hard-boiled" ninety day officers are making a mess of the army.

422

RESULTS:

The Dallas Express
8-7-20

On Monday morning of last week nearly forty discharged members of the 24th Infantry passed through Houston en route to their homes in the East. A representative of The Observer interviewed a number of them and gleaned the following facts: The regiment was going down; as soon as the time of enlistment was up the boys were leaving for home and other callings; nobody wanted to re-enlist. Some of the companies had less than thirty men left in them. When asked why, they answered with a shrug: "no place for a man", "too humiliating" etc. Some incidents were related carrying out these facts. Another incident was told showing negligence by the army: A Colored non-com officer, Sergeant Woods was sent to Columbus, Ga., for recruiting service. He was killed by some Georgia "crackers"—reason not known, and the army has not yet done anything to bring about a reckoning for this man's life—to avenge his murder.

No respect, no protection, no encouragement,—what inducements are there for the Negro to join the army?

Now the army needs the Negro. There should be twice as many Negro regiments in the regular army and a national guard regiment for every state with a reasonable Negro population. (Of course we understand that this is not desired in the South). But these regiments, to be a success, should be officered by Colored officers from Colonel on down. The Observer voices the question in the minds of millions of Americans. Why can not the 9th and 10th Calvary regiments and the 24th and 25th Infantry regiments have Negro officers? Much trouble and friction would be avoided and the Negro's relation to the army would be much more respectable and congenial.

—Houston Observer.

LEXINGTON KY HERALD
APRIL 30, 1920

Ten negroes are wanted for the infantry by the Lexington recruiting station, it was announced Thursday. The recruits will be sent to the service school for negroes at Camp Benning, Ga. Under the instructions received men who have had previous service will be given preference, though their discharges must state that their character had been "very good" or better.

Here's Where The Boys Are

The Afro-American
8-27-20

Washington, D. C. August 19—The latest returns received from the headquarters of the 9th and 10th Cavalry Regiments and the 24th and 25th Infantry Regiments shows as follows: 9th Cavalry, 34 officers, 1,523 enlisted men at Camp Stotsenbery; 10th, Cavalry, 40 officers, 900 enlisted men at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.; 24th, Infantry, 52 officers, 1,283 enlisted men at Camp Furlong, Columbus, N. M.; 25th, Infantry, 42 officers, 2,103 enlisted men at Camp Stephen D. Little, Nogales, Ariz.

All Colored Men Are Now Eligible

SPRINGFIELD MASS EVE UNION
AUGUST 6, 1920

May Enlist in Four Negro Commands for Limited Time Only.

From the number of letters and inquiries that have been received this week at the army recruiting station from colored residents of the city, it is evident that the reopening of enlistments in the colored infantry regiments has attracted considerable interest, and it is also apparent that there is considerable misunderstanding concerning who is eligible for enlistment. Previous to the receipt of the telegram reopening enlistments in the colored regiments, no colored soldier could be accepted in colored regiments who was not an old regular and who had not served in the United States army prior to the entry of the United States into the World war. This was due to the fact that the 9th and 10th Cavalry, and 24th and 25th Infantry were filled to capacity and what vacancies did exist from time to time were only to be filled by experienced soldiers.

The newest orders on colored enlistments throws open the doors for a short time only to applicants with or without prior regular army service and while preference will be given as the quota needed nears completion to former service men, at present colored men with or without previous service may be accepted who can pass a literacy test equal to the fourth grade of the schools.

The 24th and 25th crack Negro outfits are at present on the Mexican border, and colored men who are contemplating an enlistment will do well to make a quick decision in the matter, recruiting officers say, as it is expected that the needed quota for these two infantry regiments will be filled within a few days.

Ernest F. Frazier, 384 Dickinson Street, accepted this morning, was the first man to enlist for the colored regiment.

WAR DEPARTMENT ASKED TO REMOVE NEGRO SOLDIERS

Journal and Guide

Santa Fe, N. Mex., April 10.—The federal grand jury today returned 15 indictments against members of the Twenty-fourth colored infantry regiment stationed at Columbus, N. Mex., for the past three years, and recommended to the court and the war department that this regiment be removed from the border. The report that the civil authorities were unable to cope with the situation as regards boot-legging and gambling.

4-11-21

11-11-20

NEGROES WANTED

The Montgomery Advertiser
3-2-20

Uncle Sam's Army Desires 50 Huskies For Service School

Fifty negro soldiers are wanted for the army, to be enlisted in the infantry and assigned to the Colored Service School Detachment, Camp Benning, Ga., according to advice received from the Montgomery army recruiting office. Men of previous military service are preferred, but only such men will be accepted as have been discharged with character very good or better according to Sergeant Windham. Sergeant Windham stated that men of superior type only will be accepted for enlistment for this assignment.

Soldiers—1920
Riots.

421

421

IMPRISONED HERO EXPOSES GRAFTER

The Guardian

Sends Letter Charging Kansas City Editor With Misappropriating Funds Subscribed for Convicted Soldiers.

4-10-20

Sends Letter Charging Kansas City Editor With Misappropriating Funds Subscribed for Convicted Soldiers.

Box 7, Leavenworth, Kan, April 5, 1920
Mr. Munroe Trotter,
34 Cornhill St., Boston, Mass.

Dear Editor:

Just a few lines to inform you of my misfortune. I am one of the unfortunate members of the 24th. infantry, and whom was accused, and tried, and convicted, and sentenced by a general kangaroo courtmartial, and to serve the remaining of my days, in the United States Federal Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan., and for participating in the Houston, Texas riot which occurred August 23, 1917.

Mr. Nick Chiles of Topeka, Kansas, is the editor of the Topeka, Kansas, Plaindealer newspaper, and the 1st of 1918, he took up our case, and collected funds from nearly all of the churches thruout the United States.

He should be a very rich man by this time, because he has collected money since the 1st of 1918, and just what he has done with it, God knows, and the worst of all when anyone of us boys write to him, he won't even answer any of our letters.

Dear editor, I kindly, and respectfully request that you please communicate with him if you can, and see if you can stir him, or arouse him, he does not intend to help any of us boys, but what we wan't him to do, is refund that money to the people whom he collected it from, and let the next fellow have a chance at the same game, which he has so long played.

He has mentioned almost 25 different dates that our case would be up, and argued in Judge Polock Court, in Kansas City, Mo. Mr. Nick Chiles, was supposed to have filed a writ of habeas corpus in Judge Polock's court, and it would be argued on, but we cannot hear anything from Mr. Chiles, surely he isn't dead.

I thank you for any steps that you may see fit to undertake in my behalf.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) Ben McDaniel.

P. S.—Please do not forget this: Not a one of us boys requested Mr. Nick Chiles, to take charge of our cases. He volunteered and is a grafter, and myself and all the rest would like the public to know about him.

I, myself am more than honestly and faithfully willing to pay for your service, or anything you may see fit to do in my behalf.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) B. M.

Houston Rioters to Get Freedom

Defender

10-30-20

Expert Criminal Lawyer to Seek Release of Condemned Yanks

Leavenworth, Kan., Oct. 29.—That the writ of habeas corpus case instituted in behalf of members of the 24th Infantry, now confined in the federal penitentiary, convicted of participation in the Houston riot of August, 1917, will go to the higher courts was intimated this week by counsel for the imprisoned men.

Expect Decision Soon

Turner W. Bell, regarded as one of the greatest criminal lawyers in the country, in a statement to a Defender reporter, declared that the government has filed its brief in the writ of habeas corpus case of Private William Frasier and 39 other former soldiers of the 24th Infantry. The matter has been submitted to Federal Judge John J. Pollock, who had overruled the government's motion to dismiss the case on demurrer. It is said that Judge Pollock has already prepared his memorandum of decision.

Several Were Hanged

The Houston riot cases attracted nation-wide attention. Court martial hearings resulted in the hanging of several soldiers; others were sent to the federal prison for life, while a few were freed.

Is Criminal Specialist

Attorney Bell has been lecturing throughout the country in the attempt to get sufficient funds in which to carry the case to the highest court. A document containing several hundred pages has been printed at considerable cost and is filed in the court for review. Mr. Bell figured in the McNamara dynamite cases, and was successful in securing the release of several of the white men who were serving life sentences. This was accomplished after the most prominent white attorneys throughout the country had failed. He also handled the case for Charles Spencer, noted mail pouch robber, and gained the latter's freedom when seven white attorneys had given up hope and deserted Spencer.

Attorney's Statement

In a statement to a Defender reporter Attorney Bell said: "I believe that these soldiers are unjustly punished according to the evidence against them, and I am going to fight to a finish to secure their release. It is possible, but may take a little time.

"I have handled many cases that seemed utterly hopeless, but my clients are free men today. These men are in prison for life, and if the Race stand back of me, the condemned men of the 24th Infantry will be given a new start in life as free men. They are penniless, but hopeful. I am willing to sacrifice my own fee, if I can get enough money to print records and defray other exepenses necessary in court appeals."

Funds Are Asked

The Chicago Defender has been made collector of funds for the condemned soldiers, and interested persons throughout the country are asked to send funds to the paper to help gain the soldiers' freedom.

MOVEMENT IS ON TO FREE SOLDIERS WHO TOOK PART IN HOUSTON RAID.

By Associated Negro Press

Houston, Texas, July 8.—The last issue of the Army and Navy Journal states that there is an organized movement to free all of the Negro soldiers of the 24th Infantry who wre adjudged guilty of participation in the raid on Houston in August, 1917. The Journal points out that an application for a writ of habeas corpus has been made before Judge John C. Pollock in the United States District Court in Kansas City, Kans., in behalf of the 3 9soldiers who are now serving terms in the Federal penitentiary at Fort Leavenworth. Forty-one of these men were convicted at the time of the court martial but two have since did. The writ sets forth that the United States was not at war at the time of the raid and therefore the men were not guilty of violating any war law by the raid.

FIGHT RENEWED BY RACE IN BEHALF OF HOUSTON RIOTERS

Big Meeting Held in Chicago To Launch Campaign for Funds to Appeal Case of 24th Men.

NOTED ATTORNEY AIDS

Chicago, Ill, Oct. 5—Active efforts are being made to secure the liberty of the 41 soldiers of the 24th Infantry, now serving life sentences in the Federal Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas. These men were convicted of participation in the riots at Houston, Texas, August 23rd, 1917, when after they had suffered an unbearable campaign of insult and abuse at the hands of the city policemen and citizens, a group of the soldiers on hearing of the death of a comrade at the hands of the Houston police, swept through Houston, dealing death to every police officer and armed civilian who opposed them.

Friends Hold Meeting

An enthusiastic meeting was held at the Eighth regiment armory recently and addresses were made by Atty. Turner W. Bell, Atty. R. A. J. Shaw and Bishop A. J. Carey. Plans for aid to the men were discussed, it being contended that a fair trial was denied them. The court was held in Fort Sam Houston, described by one of the speakers "as being a short distance from the scene of the riot, in an atmosphere reeking with prejudice and under the auspices of the Southern department of the army, said to be made up of race hating officers." The regiment was full of new and untrained men just recruited, who fearful of their lives, "peached" on their comrades, in [illegible] implicating innocent men.

As a result of the court martial, 13 men were taken out secretly and hanged, while 41 were sent to Leavenworth for life. There are over 120 men in Leavenworth as a result of the riot.

Noted Lawyer to Aid

The war was on. No hope could be entertained at that time of aiding the men who were accused of mutiny during time of war. Several societies in the Middle West took interest but accomplished little. Finally Turner W. Bell, the famous Colored lawyer of Leavenworth was invited into the case. Associated with him are Attorneys Elisha Scott and Barbour of El Reno, Okla., and Topeka, Kans. Mr. Bell has an enviable reputation as a lawyer. He deliberated more men from the federal penitentiary than any other United States lawyer, 686 in all. He is the counsel who secured the release of the labor men in the famous McNamara dynamiting case. He is now counsel for 183 members of the I. W. W. who are in prison and has been identified with numerous other noted cases, and ranks as one of the great habeas corpus lawyers of the country. He says the men can be freed.

The lawyers are now engaged in two efforts; one to take the case to the United States Court of Appeals and second, to simultaneously present to the next president of the United States, a petition signed by hundreds of thousands of citizens. To carry the case up will cost much money. It is declared "that the fight of these men is the fight of our group." Their friends say that by avenging insults to their uniforms on account of color, they should not be persecuted."

The Chicago Defender has issued an appeal in their behalf and will accept contributions to aid the men in their fight for liberty. Subscriptions by organizations or individuals should be sent to The Chicago Defender, 3159 S. State St., Chicago, Ill.

U. S. TROOPS IN RACE RIOT

300 WHITE AND COLORED TROOPS CLASH IN KANSAS

Leavenworth, Kan., Oct. 6, 1920.—Three hundred white and negro soldiers, stationed at Fort Leavenworth, participated in a race conflict when one of the Negroes pushed one of the whites from a sidewalk on a downtown street. Three men were injured during the encounter. Th disturbance was quelled by the city police and provost guard summoned from the fort.

SOLDIERS IN RACE FIGHT

NEW YORK CITY TIMES
OCTOBER 6, 1920

Three Injured in Outbreak Among 300 at Fort Leavenworth.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Oct. 5.—Three men were injured severely early today in a fight between about 300 white and negro soldiers stationed at Fort Leavenworth, according to an announcement late today.

The fight is said to have started last evening when a negro soldier pushed a white soldier off the sidewalk in the town. Later the disturbance became general and continued until about 3 o'clock this morning. Civilian police were helpless and the disturbance was not quelled until the provost guard arrived from Fort Leavenworth.

NEGRO EDITOR TO PEN.

The Topeka Plaindealer

San Antonio, Texas, July 20—G. W. Bouldin formerly editor of a Negro newspaper here, will be taken to Leavenworth, Kansas, tomorrow, to begin serving a two years' sentence in the federal penitentiary.

7-2-1920

Bouldin was convicted in November 1917, of violation of the espionage act following the publication of an article at the time of the courtmartial of Negro members of the Twenty-fourth regiment for participation in the Houston riots.

The editor was charged with inciting insubordination among United States troops. The United States supreme court recently refused to consider the case.

THE PEOPLE WANT ACTION IN HOUSTON RIOT CASE

The Topeka Plaindealer 12-17-20

As president of the Kansas Defense Society, we wish to call the attention of the public to the Houston Riot Case, where several soldiers of the 24th Infantry, U. S Army were court martialed, 13 of them paying the penalty at Ft Sam Houston and something like a hundred were sentenced to prison for life. We organized the Kansas Defense Society to secure the liberty of these poor, unfortunate soldier boys and employed Hon. T. W. Bell, of Leavenworth, Kansas, and Hon. Elisha Scott, of Topeka, Kansas, and Hon. E. T. Barbour, of El Reno, Okla. Habeas Corpus proceedings were instituted in the U. S. District Court at Kansas City, Kansas, before Judge Pollock who rendered a decision sometime ago which necessitates an appeal to either the United States Supreme Court at Washington or the Appelate Court at Minneapolis. Attorney Bell contended that we should begin raising funds before the decision of Judge Pollock was made. While we differed from him on this proposition, he was permitted to go ahead, to organize and collect these funds to suit himself Up to this time nothing has been done towards filing this case to the higher courts, neither has there been any action started to do so. However, he is now going over the country collecting funds for expenses, which no one knows where it is needed or how much is necessary. Hon. Elisha Scott has notified Mr. Bell that he is ready to proceed with the case and has been for sometime and has requested Mr. Bell to cease collecting funds from the public, as it is his opinion that the public has up to this time contributed sufficient funds to take the case to all the courts in the United States.

Now, as president of the Kansas Defense Society and one who is responsible for the employment of these attorneys, we want the general public to be patient and assist in seeing to it that Attorney Bell takes action in this matter at once. We have no doubt but that since the Republican administration is in power at Washington, we will be able to secure the release of these men and it occurs to us that Attorney Bell is attempting to play this same game. He assured us that he had the law on his side and that there would be no question about the release of these boys through all the courts. Now we want him to get busy and show us this law and what can be done. On the other hand, Mr. Scott has information from a prominent attorney in Washington, to the effect that he can not only secure the release of these men but that they are entitled to $1085.00 earh from the government for money due them for the time they were deprived of their liberty up to the present date, and that he would take the case for one half the amount due the imprisoned men and take his chances. He also expressed little faith in the manner in which the case had been handled up to this time, but is yet willing to go into it and correct the present mistakes. The attorney in question is well known in the city of Washington and whose reputation is well known thruout the country.

We now expect Mr. Bell to get busy at once in this case.

(Signed)

NICK CHILES

President, Kansas Defense Society.
Editor, Topeka Plaindealer

Negro Troopers To Be Free?

[illegible] 11/19/20

(By the Associated Negro Press.)

Leavenworth, Kansas, Nov. 12.—T. W. Bell, the attorney for the imprisoned Negro soldiers in the Federal penitentiary, is working very hard on the case and confidently expects to win. While he has not disclosed his latest plans, he declares that he is confident he will be able to procure the freedom of the accused men. The case will be argued here within a short time.

EFFORTS TO SECURE LIBERTY OF 24th INFANTRY SOLDIERS

Serving Life Sentences For Participating In Riots

The Savannah Tribune 10-9-20

Chicago, Ill., Oct 6th—Active efforts are being made to secure the liberty of the 41 soldiers of the 24th Infantry, now serving life sentences in the Federal Penitentiary at Leavenworth Kansas. These men were convicted of participating in the riots at Houtson Texas, August 23rd, 1917, when after they had suffered an unbearable campaign of insult and abuse at the hands of the city policemen and citizens; a group of the soldiers on hearing of the death of a comrade at the hands of the Houston police, swept thru Houston, dealing death to every police officer and armed civilian who opposed them.

An enthusiastic meeting was held at the Eighth regiment armony recently and addresses were made by Atty. Turner W. Bell, Atty. R A J. Shaw and Bishop A. J. Carey. Plans for aid to the men were discussed, it being contended that a fair trial was denied them. The court was held in Fort Sam Houston described by one of the speakers "as being a short distance from the scene of the riot, in an atmbsphere reeking with prejudice and under the auspices of the Southern department of the army, said to be made up of race hating officers. The regiment was full of new and untrained men just recruited, who fearful of their lives, "peached' on their comrades, in many cases implicating innocent men.

As a result of the court martial, 13 men were taken out secretly and hanged, while 41 were sent to Leavenworth for life. There are over 120 men in Leavenworth as a result of the riot.

The War was on. No hope could be entertained at that time of aiding the men who were accused of mutiny during the war. Several societies in the Middle West took interest but accomplished little. Finally Turner W. Bell, the famous colored lawyer of Leavenworth was invited into the case. Associated with him are Attorneys Elisha Scott and Barbour of El Reno, Okla., and Topeka, Kans. Mr. Bell has an enviable reputation as a lawyer He has liberated more men from the federal penitentiary than any other United States lawyer, 686 in all. He is the counsel who secured the release of the labor men in the famous Mcnamarra dynamiting case. He is now counsel for 135 members of the I. W. W. who are in prison and has been identified with numerous other noted cases, and ranks as one of the great habeas corpus lawyers of the country He says the men can be freed.

The lawyers are now engaged in two efforts: one to take the case to the United States Court of Appeals and second, to simulatneously present to the next president of the United States, a petition signed by hundreds of thousands of citizens. To carry the case will cost much money. It is declared "that the fight of these men is the fight of our group." Their friends say that by avenging insults to their uniforms on account of color they should not be prosecuted." The Chicago Defender has issued an appeal in their behalf and will accept contributions to aid the men in their fight for liberty. Subscriptions by organizations or individuals should be sent to The Chicago Defender, 5159 S. State St., Chicago, Ill.

WRIT TO FREE 24TH INF. SOLDIERS ASKED

Chicago [illegible] 6-26-[illegible]

Kansas City, Kan., June 25.—A petition for a writ of habeas corpus was presented in the federal court in Kansas City last Saturday by attorneys for thirty-nine prisoners held in Leavenworth federal penitentiary on a charge of rioting in Houston, Texas, in August, 1917. The prisoners are soldiers formerly connected with the 24th U. S. Infantry.

Judge John C. Pollock, federal judge of the district, took the case under advisement. The hearing was held in chambers.